FBIS DAILY REPORT

Briefs: New Ambassadors

Asia & Pacific

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GSDF EXCLUDES USSR MILITARY FROM KYUSHU TOUR

OW170951 Tokyo KYODO in English 0926 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO -- The Ground Self-Defense*Force (GSDF) has decided not to invite a Soviet military attache to a GSDF-sponsored tour of Kyushu in an apparent gesture of displeasure over the shooting down of a civilian South Korean airplane by a missile fired by a Soviet warplane. Inviting a Soviet military attache to the tour is inadvisable because the Soviet Union still rejects demands for compensation from the families of 269 persons killed in the incident, a GSDF official said Thursday.

The official said military attaches from 13 countries, including the United States, China and Chile, have accepted the invitation to the tour of the southwestern island from May 21 to 24. The September 1, 1983, incident prompted the Japanese Government to shut down air flights between Tokyo and Moscow until the end of last November. Japan's Defense Agency did not invite a Soviet military attache to the annual parade of GSDF members held last October.

LDP GROUPS VOTE TO RESUME USSR PARLIAMENTARY TIES

OW171023 Tokyo KYODO in English 0833 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO -- Two committees of Japan's ruling Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) decided Thursday to resume exchange of visits by Japanese and Soviet members of parliament, suspended since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in late 1979. The decision was immediately conveyed to both houses of the Diet, which plan to invite a delegation of Soviet parliamentary members to Japan before the end of this year.

An LDP spokesman said some officials of the Conservative Party still express reservations about resumption of the visits because of the shooting down of a Korean Air Lines plane by a Soviet fighter last September and Moscow's boycott of the Los Angeles Olympics this summer. But the LDP's Foreign Affairs Research Council and Foreign Affairs Committee voted in a joint session for reopening contact between Japanese and Soviet lawmakers.

The resumption of bilateral parliamentarians ties was recently urged by Zinaida M. Kruglova, chief of the Soviet Union's External Cultural Affairs Organization, in her meeting with lower house Speaker Kenji Fukunaga.

FOREIGN MINISTRY DEPLORES GULF TANKER ATTACK

OW170905 Tokyo KYODO in English 0847 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO -- Japan Thursday deplored an attack on a Saudi Arabian supertanker presumably by Iranian aircraft and a Foreign Ministry official said the attack was designed to create a rift between Iraq and other Gulf states. "There is a strong possibility that Iran carried out the attack," said a Foreign Ministry source. The attack, he speculated, "is possibly a warning aimed at separating Iraq from Gulf states." The source added, however, the attack would not mean an escalation of the Iran-Iraq war. The Japanese Government is not blaming Tehran for the attack because of insufficient evidence, he said.

The Foreign Ministry source commented on the latest phase of the Gulf war in connection with a meeting between Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Yoshio Hatano, director general of the ministry's Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau.

After the meeting, a government spokesman told reporters Japan deplored the attack which endangers navigation in the Persian Gulf. Japan imports some 65 percent of crude oil from the Mideast, including 11 percent from Iran. Prime Minister Nakasone, asked for his comment on the escalating air attacks on tankers, told reporters: "The situation (of the Gulf) is regrettable and severe."

The Gulf Cooperation Council said Gulf foreign ministers will be meeting in Riyadh Thursday local time to discuss the alleged Iranian attack. Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz of Iraq and Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah of Kuwait are scheduled to arrive in Tokyo next Monday for talks with Prime Minister Nakasone, Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and other officials.

Wednesday's attack may cause a postponement or cancellation of their visit, a Foreign Ministry source said. But he said there are no such indications at present. A Saudi Arabian official will be accompanying the two foreign ministers.

The Iranians were displeased with absence of Saudi criticism of Iraqi attacks on shipping in the past, the Foreign Ministry source said in explaining the background of the volatile Gulf situation.

Call for Restraint Expected

OW171009 Tokyo KYODO in English 0935 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpt] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO -- Japan is expected to call on Iran and Iraq to exercise restraint in their three-year-and-a-half war in the wake of bombing of a Saudi Arabian tanker. Specifically, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's government plans to appeal to the two warring nations to refrain from attacking third-party oil carriers.

Nakasone met with Yoshio Hatano, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau, Thursday. A Foreign Ministry source said the government's concern over the latest development in the Gulf war will be made known to Foreign Ministers Tariq 'Aziz of Iraq and Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah of Kuwait who are scheduled to arrive in Tokyo May 21.

MCFARLANE URGES LARGER PURCHASES OF U.S. COAL

OW170345 Tokyo KYODO in English 0331 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Washington, May 16 KYODO -- The U.S. Government has urged visiting Japanese industry officials to buy more American coal, indicating its jitters over declining shipments to Japan. Robert C. McFarlane, deputy assistant to the President for national security affairs, made the call, specifically asking the Japanese to increase their U.S. steam coal purchases up to 20 percent or more of their total imports in the future.

The group of officials from Japanese utilities, cement producers and steelmakers is visiting the U.S. for talks with American coal shippers. The group leader, Tokyo Electric Power Co. Managing Director Minoru Masuda, met Japanese reporters, disclosing the content of the call, the first ever made specifically by a highly-placed U.S. official.

American steam coal is priced out in Japan as supplies from Australia and other sources are less costly to obtain because of their proximity to Japan. Besides, long-term contracts between the Japanese industries and coal producers in other countries leave American firms with slim chances of materially increasing their shipments to Japan in the next several years.

McFarlane's call was taken as reflecting growing American unhappiness about the trade gap between Japan and the U.S. and raised fears declining U.S. coal exports to Japan could emerge as a major trade issue. During talks with American coal shippers here Monday-Tuesday, the Japanese agreed to set up a standing joint committee to deal with coal trade problems. The committee is to hold its first meeting sometime before mid-September. Key topics for discussion at the meeting are expected to include ways to lower the high freight cost to bring coal from land-locked mines to ports.

MITI, PRC COMMISSION TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC ISSUES

OW161323 Tokyo KYODO in English 1034 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Tokyo, May 16 KYODO -- The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) and China's State Economic Commission will hold a working-level meeting in Beijing next Wednesday and Thursday to discuss the Japanese and Chinese economic situation, MITI officials said Wednesday. In addition to general economic issues and technical cooperation, Japanese delegates will explain to Chinese officials methods of quality control by Japanese companies and the Japanese industrial standards (JIS), they said. The Japanese team will be headed by MITI Vice Minister Kazuo Sugiyama while Ma Yi, vice minister of the commission, will lead the Chinese delegation.

ISHIBASHI FORECASTS DEVELOPMENT ON KOREAN ISSUE

OW160931 Tokyo KYODO in English 0833 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Tokyo, May 16 KYODO -- Japan's No 1 opposition Socialist Party leader Masashi Ishibashi said Wednesday some development may take place concerning the situation in Korea. Ishibashi said that a U.S.-Soviet dialogue is not possible as a result of Moscow's recent decision to stay away from the summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

In a speech he delivered at a meeting sponsored by KYODO News Enterprise, Ishibashi said the Republican administration of President Ronald Reagan can only tackle the Korean question in order to prove its desire to ease tension on the Korean peninsula. Indicating that some progress may come about, he said that Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's government has close relations with South Korea while the Socialist Party is on friendly terms with the communist North.

"Something considerable can be done if (Nakasone's) government and the Socialist Party join hands," said Ishibashi, who recently visited Washington and met with Vice President George Bush, leading members of the U.S. Government and American Congressional leaders. He emphasized that the Socialist Party can play some role in relaxing tension on the Korean peninsula, including a possibility of his visit to North Korea.

Ishibashi said there is no possibility of China joining in talks on Korea, a subject North Korea said should be discussed among officials of North and South Korea and the United States. However, he said China could become involved in the Korean question if the proposed tripartite talks were held in Beijing.

Ishibashi said Moscow's decision to boycott the Olympics has increased the severity of U.S.-Soviet confrontation, adding that he was very much concerned about it. He said it is no longer a dream for his party to seize power but stressed he would make all out efforts for the time being to build up the party structure.

MIKI LEAVES FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN VISITS

OW160907 Tokyo KYODO in English 0608 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Tokyo, May 16 KYODO -- Former Prime Minister Takeo Miki left on a 10-day visit to Thailand, Singapore and Indonesia to discuss arms limitation problems with leaders there. Miki has assumed an active role concerning the problems since he became chairman of a suprapartisan dietmens' group to promote arms limitation last September.

Plans this summer call for Miki as chairman to visit the United States for a meeting with President Ronald Reagan, as well as the Soviet Union for talks with Konstantin Chernenko. The Southeast Asian trip will allow Miki to gather the views of leaders there concerning arms limitation, his aides said. In Thailand Miki will meet Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon and Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila. Then in Singapore, he is scheduled to have talks with Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and Foreign Minister Supplish Dhanabalan. Miki will meet Indonesia's President Suharto in the last leg of his trip.

Included on his itinerary will be visits to sites developed with Japanese economic cooperation, as well as joint ventures in operation there.

NAKASONE INTERVIEWED ON RELATIONS WITH BRAZIL

OW161331 Tokyo KYODO in English 1013 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Tokyo, May 16 KYODO -- Japan wishes to strengthen cultural, scientific and personnel exchanges with Brazil, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Wednesday. He made the remark in an interview with Brazilian reporters. The 30-minute interview took place at the Prime Minister's official residence in connection with Brazilian President Joao Baptista de Figueiredo's state visit to Japan May 23.

Nakasone said he regarded his coming meeting with Figueiredo as "very significant because the president is a leader of the Third World." The prime minister said he believes Brazil has been making a successful recovery from a heavy financial deficit. Brazil is reported to have debts totalling more than 100 billion dollars.

Nakasone told the Brazilian newsmen the question of economic cooperation with developing nations would be a major topic to be taken up at the London summit of industrially advanced countries in June.

CORRECTION TO KURIHARA DEFENSE ISSUES DEBATE

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Kurihara Debates Defense Issues With Politicians," published in the Japan section of the 16 May Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT, page C3.

The last paragraph, line 3 reads: ...defense, Ichikawa says the United States, assuming a U.S.-Soviet war, wants Japan to have the ability to complement the United States' world... (supplying dropped phrase)

ATTEMPT TO FORM 3-WAY MILITARY ALLIANCE DENOUNCED

SK160128 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2141 GMT 15 May 84

[NODONG SINMUN 15 May commentator's article: "We Once Again Argue About a Tripartite Military Alliance"]

[Text] Two contradictory stands are acutely confronting each other today with regard to the Korean question -- one is for solving the Korean question peacefully, and the other is a policy for war and division running counter to peace and the reunification of Korea.

We recently advanced a proposal for holding tripartite talks with the participation of us, the United States, and the South Korean authorities to ease tension on the Korean peninsula and to solve the Korean question peacefully. In the proposal, we called for eliminating the danger of a new war on the Korean peninsula and for opening a favorable phase for the country's independent and peaceful reunification by signing a peace agreement between us and the United States, by withdrawing U.S. forces from South Korea, and by adopting a nonaggression declaration between the North and South.

Our proposal for the tripartite talks has won ardent and positive support and sympathy from broad strata, such as the governments, national assemblies, political parties, and social organizations of many countries of the world, because it delineated a most practical and rational way to solve the Korean question peacefully through dialogue and negotiations and to preserve world peace. The progressive and peace-loving people of the world unanimously demand that, through the implementation of the proposal for tripartite talks, a peace agreement be signed between Korea and the United States, the unstable state of the armistice be ended, the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons be withdrawn from South Korea, and the danger of war eliminated. They also demand that the United States and the South Korean authorities respond to the proposal for the tripartite talks without delay. This eloquently proves the just nature of our proposal for tripartite talks to achieve peace and peaceful reunification. The U.S. imperialists, however, have answered our peace-loving stand with a line for war and division and have continuously traversed the road that contradicts the peaceful solution of the Korean question.

The U.S. imperialists' line for war and division has been intensively represented by the maneuvers to form a tripartite U.S.-Japan-South Korea military alliance. The U.S. Government is now hellbent on maneuvers to complete the tripartite military alliance. The U.S. imperialists have strengthened military and political collusion in various ways with the Japanese Government and puppet traitor Chon Tu-hwan in South Korea.

The aim of Reagan's visit to South Korea last November was to actually complete the formation of the tripartite military alliance in conjunction with the visits to South Korea and the United States by the Japanese prime minister, which had been made prior to Reagan's trip. The characteristics of these visits showed that the United States, Japan, and South Korean puppets stressed their security, clamorously babbling about security cooperation and joint action in case of an emergency, and that they brazenly described their relations as a common destiny, as companionship, and as a military alliance. The fair public opinion of the world describes this as the virtual military and strategic coalescence of the United States, Japan, and South Korea and as an unusual movement to further approach the completion of the tripartite military alliance.

The aims of the recent visits to Japan and South Korea by U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger and the scheduled visit to Japan by traitor Chon Tu-hwan are to accelerate finalization of the formation of the aggressive tripartite alliance.

These facts show that, although the tripartite U.S.-Japan-South Korea military alliance has not been officially signed in a letter of treaty, it exists in fact and is functioning as a collective war structure. A plan for an aggressive war that will be waged in the Asian and Pacific region in accordance with the tripartite military alliance is being formulated hastily. This plan includes a study on an emergency in the Far East, on the defense of a sea transport route, and a plan for the blockading of a strait.

As is known, the basic aims of these studies and plans are to oppose our republic and other countries and to form a war plan for the tripartite military alliance designed to dominate the Asian and Pacific region.

Having already prepared a script for a Korean war that will be waged in three phases, and while further trying to complete this script through these studies, the U.S. war maniacs assigned war roles and tasks to Japan and the South Korean puppets. Thus, the United States will be chiefly in charge of strategic offensive operations; Japan will offer its whole territory to the U.S. imperialists as a tactical base while directly participating in battles; and the South Korean puppets will be assigned to a forward charge line as mercenaries. In accordance with such a war plan, the U.S. imperialists are giving impetus to the establishment of tripartite joint command systems. The so-called C3-I system is one of them. In accordance with this C3-I system, the U.S. imperialists are trying to carry out the operation of combining the command, control, communications, and intelligence elements of the U.S. forces, Japan's Self-Defense Forces, and the South Korean puppet armed forces in an emergency. The central point of the C3-I system is the central command post which was recently established in Japan. This central command post is directly linked to the U.S. Pacific Command and to U.S. commands in Japan and South Korea. This command post will command tripartite military operations in an emergency. Public opinion in Japan views this central command post as one aimed at a Korean war.

The U.S. imperialists are also trying to reorganize the Combined Forces Command of the U.S. forces and the puppet armed forces in South Korea into a joint tripartite command of the U.S. forces, Japan's Self-Defense Forces, and the South Korean puppet forces in an emergency.

In accordance with the war plan for the tripartite military alliance, the U.S. imperialists are now frantically maneuve ing to make preparations for provoking a new war. They have greatly massed their aggressive forces, especially nuclear forces, in the East Asian and Pacific region. The military capability of the U.S. 7th Fleet has been greatly increased by the battleship "New Jersey," by the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier "Carl Vinson," and by other battleships. The nuclear offensive system has been strengthened with Trident and Tomahawk missiles.

The U.S. imperialists have turned South Korea and Japan into a nuclear forward base of the tripartite military alliance. All of Japan is covered with U.S. nuclear weapons. In particular, more than 1,000 nuclear weapons, F-16 fighter bombers, and various nuclear delivery systems, such as Lance missiles, are deployed in South Korea. The U.S. imperialists are trying to deploy Pershing II and cruise missiles and even neutron weapons in South Korea. While stressing the strategic importance of South Korea, U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger once again recently raved that the United States will guarantee the security of South Korea with a nuclear umbrella. South Korea has turned into a felonious nuclear war base and into a powder magazine against the northern half of the republic and other countries.

The work of rearming Japan, which will play an important role in the tripartite military alliance in accordance with the plan of the U.S. imperialists, is being accelerated. Desiring to become the masters of Asia in collusion with the U.S. imperialists, the Japanese reactionaries are eager to increase their aggressive forces to fulfill their wild desire for overseas expansion with the tripartite military alliance as a lever.

Their formulation of the largest military budget since the war for fiscal year 1984, with an increase of 6.5 percent over the previous fiscal year, well proves the vast scale and speed of the remilitarization and rearming of Japan.

With military aid from the U.S. imperialists, the modernization of the South Korean puppet armed forces has been carried out quickly. On various pretexts, the U.S. imperialists have continuously offered military aid to the South Korean puppets. The Japanese reactionaries have positively given military aid to the puppets.

As a result, the South Korean puppet armed forces have been armed with offensive weapons and military hardware, such as various rockets, guns, armored cars, and helicopters. People say that they will possess long-range offensive fighter-bombers.

The work of developing the munitions industry and of building and expanding military bases has been accelerated in South Korea. What is particularly noteworthy in the maneuvers to form the tripartite military alliance is the fact that tripartite military exercises have been staged in succession. Various successive military exercises that closely link Japan and South Korea have been staged, in addition to the exercises between the United States and Japan and between the United States and South Korea. A joint U.S.-Japan-South Korea military exercise has been staged to block the Korean Strait. People say that a joint exercise of Japan's Air Self-Defense Force and the F-16 fighter-bombers of the U.S. Air Force in South Korea will be staged in South Korea.

In the context of the U.S.-Japan-South Korea military exercises, the joint "Team Spirit-84" exercise reached its culmination. In this comprehensive offensive exercise of the tripartite military alliance against our republic, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets mobilized vast forces of aggression, and the Japanese reactionaries offered Japan as a relay base, as an operational base, and as a logistics base. Thus, three-dimensional offensive tactical operational exercises resembling a real war, such as the rapid maneuvering and landing of forces from the U.S. mainland and the Pacific region, the blockading of a strait, the deployment of military hardware from the sky and the sea, large-scale air offensive operations, amphibious operations, and street battles were staged. The "Team Spirit" exercise was virtually an experimental war of the tripartite military alliance designed to attack our republic and was a preliminary war designed for a preemptive nuclear strike. This joint exercise clearly proved that the tripartite U.S.-Japan-South Korea military alliance was impetuously functioning and that, with the completion of its war preparations, the fuse of a new war might be lit at any moment.

Because of the U.S. imperialists' maneuvers to form the tripartite military alliance and because of their policy for war preparations, the situation on the Korean peninsula and in East Asia has been extremely strained, and the danger of a new war has increased with the passage of time, greatly worrying the peace-loving people of the world.

The U.S. imperialists' endless wild desire for world conquest and their frantic policy of war are the cause of the maneuvers to form the tripartite military alliance. Exhausted because of serious political and economic crises, the U.S. imperialists are trying to make a breakthrough from these crises by strengthening armaments expansion, war preparations, and a reactionary offensive against the progressive and peaceloving people of the world. Wielding a large club, they are desperately trying to hinder the independent development of the people throughout the world, to disturb peace, and to light the fuse of a new war. Provoking a new world war is the general strategy of the U.S. imperialist war maniacs. In the course of the U.S. imperialists' seeking of a wild desire for world conquest, Asia has increasingly become an important target. Saying that the next era will be an Asian and Pacific era, the bosses of the U.S. imperialists are advocating the policy of attaching importance to the Asian and Pacific region.

They say that the United States will continuously remain as a Pacific country. This shows the piratic, aggressive, and wild desire of the U.S. imperialists to turn the Pacific Ocean and surrounding waters into a U.S. lake and to pose as the dominator of the Asian and Pacific region.

The U.S. imperialists have set forth political principles to fulfill their wild desire to dominate the Asian and Pacific region. One of these principles is to strengthen relations of military alliance among the United States, Japan, and the South Korean puppet clique. The tripartite military alliance is a military tool for the policy of attaching importance to the Asian and Pacific region -- a new Asian strategy of the U.S. imperialists.

The brunt of the tripartite U.S.-Japan-South Korea military alliance is directed at the Korean peninsula, which is called the first line of the U.S. strategy. Having attached great importance to East Asia, especially to the Korean peninsula, in implementing their world strategy, the U.S. imperialist war maniacs are eager to fulfill their wild desire for all of Korea at any cost and are trying to implement a heinous plan for starting a new, great war on the Korean peninsula first.

The cause of converting the East Asian region into a place to mass the vast U.S. imperialist aggressive forces and of converting South Korea into a forward nuclear base, increasing the danger of war hour by hour, is the adventurous war line for the tripartite military alliance among the U.S. Government -- seeking a policy of provoking a new war in this region -- the reactionary Japanese Government -- accelerating rearming and remilitarization by following this policy -- and the South Korean puppet clique -- faithfully executing the policy of the United States and Japan for aggression and war.

Engrossed in the maneuvers to form the tripartite military alliance, the U.S. imperialists are indifferent to either the peaceful solution of the Korean question or to peace in Asia and the world.

The maneuvers to form the tripartite military alliance fully reveal the atrocious nature of the U.S. imperialists, the ringleaders of aggression and war and a nuclear mania.

If a new war were to break out in Korea under the tripartite military alliance, it would develop into a nuclear war, expanding into a new world war spreading outside Korea. Our people will never tolerate being made victims of a nuclear war as a result of the war maneuvers for the tripartite military alliance, the conversion of the fatherland into a nuclear war battleground, and mankind's suffering of nuclear disasters caused by the breakout of a new Korean war.

To solve the Korean question peacefully and to maintain peace in Asia and the world, we should resolutely check and thwart the maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists, the Japanese reactionaries, and the South Korean puppets to form the tripartite military alliance.

The vigorous antiwar, antinuclear, and peace-protection movement of the people of Asia and the world to strengthen the struggle to withdraw the U.S. imperialist aggressive forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea and to turn the East Asian region, including the Korean peninsula, into a nonnuclear, peace zone completely free from nuclear weapons is a righteous act of preventing the formation of the tripartite military alliance, of smashing the conspiracy of the U.S. imperialists to provoke a new war, of promoting the peaceful solution of the Korean question, and of preserving world peace.

Our proposal for tripartite talks is an epochal and innovative one designed to preserve peace on the Korean peninsula and to solve the Korean question by signing a peace agreement between Korea and the United States, by withdrawing U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea, and by adopting a nonaggression declamation between the North and South, fully meeting the desire of the people of Asia and the world not to tolerate the formation of the tripartite military alliance.

The struggle to oppose the formation of the tripartite military alliance and to implement the tripartite talks proposal has developed vigorously, creating a great trend on a global scale.

If the U.S. imperialists continuously cling to the maneuvers to form the aggressive tripartite military alliance and to provoke a new war while ignoring the proposal for tripartite talks, their bellicose and splittist nature will be revealed increasingly, and they will be unable to avoid indignant denunciation and rejection from the people of the world. The United States should stop the criminal maneuvers to form the tripartite military alliance and should respond to our proposal for tripartite talks without delay.

FOREIGN PRESS CONTINUES SUPPORT FOR 3-WAY TALKS

SK170837 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0809 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA) -- Foreign papers continue to publish articles supporting the DPRK proposal for tripartite talks, according to reports. The Bulgarian paper NARODNA MLADEZH April 26 said that the proposal for tripartite talks is a part of the consistent policy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which puts forward most realistic and reasonable ways for the peaceful reunification of the country. The new proposal for tripartite talks, it continued, has evoked active support and solidarity from the world public circles. Only Washington and Seoul refuse to accept it. The aggression and war moves of the United States and the South Korean authorities are closely linked with the scheme to form a U.S.-Japan-South Korea triangular military alliance.

The Yugoslav paper NOVA MAKEDONIJA april 24 in its article titled Pyongyang Proposes Tripartite Talks said though more than 100 days have passed since the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proposed tripartite talks Washington has failed to give any answer and Seoul insists on the socalled "bilateral talks." The DPRK proposal for tripartite talks is, indeed a most just and realistic one for averting the danger of war in Korea and solving the Korean question in a peaceful way. Washington and Seoul should respond to the proposal for tripartite talks at an early date.

The Luxembourg paper ZEITUNG VUM LETZEBURGER VOLLEK April 26 gave a detailed account of the proposal for tripartite talks and demanded that the United States respond to this proposal at an early date.

On the same day the Nepalese paper JANATAGARAN stressed that the proposal for tripartite talks is s most reasonable one for peace in Korea and her reunification.

U.S. SCHEME TO BLOCK KOREA STRAITS DENOUNCED

SK130944 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0919 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today carries a commentary denouncing the U.S. imperialists' scheme to inveigle the South Korean puppets into the operation for "blocking" the Korean straits.

Noting that this sinister scheme of the U.S. imperialists was laid bare at a hearing of the U.S. House Asian and Pacific Subcommittee held recently, the author of the commentary says: This indicates the dangerous move of the United States, Japan and the South Korean puppets to jointly conduct operations for blocking the Korean straits in the "event of contingency" on the Korean peningula.

This plan furnishes clear proof that the spearhead of the U.S.-Japan-South Korean three-way military alliance is directed against the Korean people, the commentary says, and goes on: At present triangular military exercises of the United States, Japan and South Korea are being held repeatedly in and around South Korea. The "Team Spirit 84" joint military rehearsal held recently was in fact a three-way "test war." The purpose of the recent visit of U.S. Secretary of Defence Weinberger to Japan and South Korea was to round off the plan for joint operations based on the three-way military alliance.

The tensions on the Korean peninsula and the danger of another war in Korea are growing with each passing day owing to the maneovres to knock into shape a U.S.-Japan-South Korea three-way military alliance. The U.S. imperialists must immediately give up the scheme to form a criminal three-way military alliance.

WEINBERGER'S 'NUCLEAR UMBRELLA' OFFER SCORED

SK150435 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0424 GMT 15 May 84

[Text] Pyongyang May 15 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today, commenting on the recent announcement of Weinberger in South Korea that there would be no change in the U.S. policy of offering a "nuclear umbrella" to South Korea and "more sophisticated nuclear weapons" be introduced there, says that this betrayed the intention of the U.S. imperialists to convert South Korea further into their nuclear forward base and step up nuclear war preparations there. The author of the commentary says:

Weinberger claimed that their criminal moves would contribute to peace on the Korean peninsula. This is indeed a preposterous sophism.

While deploying new type medium-range missiles in Europe and shipping new type nuclear weapons into Japan and other parts, the U.S. ruling circles claim that this is "conducive to security" in the countries of these regions. No argument is needed to prove that this is a lie.

During his visit to South Korea in November last year, Reagan stated that "he would not rule out the use of nuclear weapons in case of emergency" on the Korean peninsula. Other warmaniacs also declared that the United States would "offer a reinforced nuclear umbrella" to South Korea as it is the "first line of the United States" in the Far East.

In view of their range the nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea are directed not only against the northern half but also against other countries of Asia going far beyond the boundary of Korea. The U.S. talk about "nuclear umbrella" is nothing but a trick to inveigle other countries into the nuclear war strategy and justify the nuclear war and nuclear base moves of the U.S. imperialists.

The "threat of aggression from North Korea" and "possibility of its attack" clamoured about by the U.S. ruling circles do not exist in actuality. They originate precisely from the U.S. imperialist aggression forces occupying South Korea and their nuclear base. The "nuclear umbrella" is by no means a "deterrent" but a spark of nuclear war of the U.S. imperialists which will bring down only new mushrooms over the world's people. The war doctrine of the U.S. ruling circles that peace and security can be guaranteed under the "nuclear umbrella" is as foolish as telling people to sleep in peace on a nuclear powder magazine which may blow up any moment.

CONSTRUCTION OF KOREAN WAR MONUMENT IN U.S. NOTED

SK160909 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0809 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Pyongyang May 16 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today denounces the U.S. Administration's recent decision to erect in Washington a monument to the U.S. war of aggression on Korea. The author of its commentary says:

Obivious is the Reagan administration's intention in deciding to erect a monument to the war of aggression on Korea. It is aimed at justifying and prettifying at all costs the U.S. war of aggression on Korea that has been branded as a brigandish aggressive war in history and, at the same time, at inciting a war fever in the United States and preparing Americans for a war of aggression, notably, a new war of aggression on Korea.

The Reagan administration which is frantically seeking a new war of aggression in Korea and many other parts of the world is hastening armament expansion and arms buildup as never before and scheming to further incite a militarist idea among the American people to mobilize them in a war of aggression. Its decision to set up the monument is a step taken as part of such manoeuvres.

Accordingly, it is a new signal showing that the U.S. imperialists are trying to race more recklessly along the road of war gamble, and an indication that they are trying to ignite another war in Korea on all accounts.

REAGAN'S ECONOMIC POLICY SEEN AS FAILURE

SK161618 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1538 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Pyongyang May 16 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today in an article titled "The 'New Economic Policy' That Pushed the Economy to Bankruptcy" says the U.S. economic crisis is an inevitable outcome of the Reagan administration's "new economic policy." Noting that imputing the blame for the economic crisis to the preceding administration, Reagan published the "new economic policy", the paper says:

Prattling that his "new economic policy" was a "most effective one" heralding the "rebirth of a powerful U.S. economy" and "new start" of "reconstruction of a powerful United States", Reagan talked matters as if he would bring welfare to the American people.

But the "new economic policy" has miscarried from the first year following its publication, to drive the U.S. economy deep into the abyss of bankruptcy. Reagan's "new economic policy", above all, has brought about a colossal amount of financial red figures in the United States.

Although he said his economic plan would clear the U.S. Federal Government of its financial deficit and ensure financial payments balance from the fiscal 1984, the U.S. financial red figures rapidly increased more than 3 times and the national debts grew from 953,000 million dollars to 1,500,000 million dollars owing to the stupendous burden of military spendings.

The measure for stimulating business by reduction of taxes which was promised by Reagan in his "new economic policy" proved to be an empty talk. The Reagan administration increased tax collection annually by more than 30,000 million dollars, sharply decreasing the social guarantee fees.

The "new economic policy" also precipitated the bankruptcy of enterprises and remarkably weakened the external competitive capacity of the U.S. economy. Allegedly to control the evil inflation after its assumption of office, the Reagan administration brought the bank interest rate to an unprecedentedly high level. Now the long-term interest in the United States is kept on the level of 11 percent. A high sum of interest and huge financial deficits further increased the financial difficulties of enterprises now in stagnation.

Mainly connected with this is one of the reasons why more than 29,200 enterprises went bankrupt in the United States last year. The number of jobless people is on the steady rise along with the bankruptcy of enterprises. The rate of unemployment in the United States, which stood at 7.4 percent in early 1981, has now gone beyond the mark of 10 percent.

Meanwhile, the high interest is constantly weakening the Untied States' position in the international market. Because the high rate of bank loans interest in the United States, in reaction to the U.S. dollar's value, advanced commodity prices and, consequently, the rate of sales of the U.S. goods overseas is on the decrease.

Recently, the U.S. trade deficit has rapidly grown. According to data, it rose from 42,700 million dollars in 1982 to 69,400 million dollars in 1983. All facts prove that Reagan's "new economic policy" is a reactionary, anti-popular economic policy which has driven the economy to bankruptcy.

VRPR ON CHON'S ATTEMPT TO MISUSE SPORTS TALKS

SK160926 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 15 May 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] In this hour, I will talk about the Chon Tu-hwan ring's attempt to misuse the sports talks for its impure political purposes. As you all may know, since the North-South sports talks began on 9 April amid great attention at home and abroad, there have been several contacts and exchanges of letters.

The precious sports talks at Panmunjom, however, not only have failed to meet the expectation and ardent aspirations of people at home and abroad, but they also are in a state of rupture today. As has been confirmed by the remarks of the reporters who have been to the Panmunjom sports talks, to speak of them without prejudice, the North-South sports talks have gone aground in a deadlock due entirely to the South Korean authorities, who let political matters intervene in these talks.

The sports talks, the goal of which is to form a single team, should never be mixed with political matters. These talks should present sound stands and ideas aimed at forming a single team on the basis of national [word indistinct] and then should reach agreement on them. This not withstanding, the Chon Tu-hwan ring is scheming to turn these talks into a political propaganda stage and to misuse it as a venue to stage anticommunist and anti-North propaganda, intentionally introducing political matters into the sports talks.

When the first sports talks were held, the ring disseminated leaflets outside the meeting place slandering the North and tried to justify its act. Even during the talks, the ring viciously slandered and maligned the North by citing matters alien to the talks, such as the Burma incident and matters concerning Choe Un-hui and Sin Sang-ok. On top of that, the ring even cited the so-called tunnel incident and the Chongwadae incident. We cannot but call this an intolerable antinational attitude.

As for the Burma incident, it has been fully exposed before the world as Chon Tu-hwan's self-made farce. As has been printed in detail by a Japanese weekly magazine SUNDAY MAINICHI in its 22 April issue, Sin Sang-hui and Choe Un-hui had gone on their own to Budapest, Hungary, from Hong Kong and via West Germany in an attempt to seek asylum. After settling there, they visited the North. In spite of this, the authorities, fabricating this incident, preposterously slandered the North. This proves that they are in no position to hold such talks.

Although the authorities babbled as if they were concerned about the so-called athletes' safety, nobody will take their babblings seriously. At the second sports talks as well, the Chon Tu-hwan ring schemed in every possible way to lead the talks in a direction favorable to its pursuit of impure goals by again making issue of this and then slandering the North. Such an attitude by the ring can only be viewed as having stemmed from its ugly goal to mislead world opinion under the pretext of holding sports talks and to fan anti-North and anticommunist ideas among the people.

All facts clearly show that what the Chon Tu-hwan ring is pursuing through the sports talks is not the formation of a single team, but impure political goals. Not only does such a machination by the Chon Tu-hwan ring run counter to sportsmanship and against the (?ideology) of national unity, but also goes against the aspirations of all athletes and the entire people who are determined to display at home and abroad the might of our unified people and their wisdom by participating with a single team in the international games, including, of course, the Olympic Games. It is also an intolerable mockery to the concern and aspirations of the world, which hopes that the North and the South will participate in the international games by forming a single team.

If the Chon Tu-hwan group schemes continuously to misuse the North-South sports talks for its political purpose, ignoring the expectations and aspirations at home and abroad, it will never be able to eschew stronger denunciation from not only sports circles, but also from all the people and the international community.

SOUTH'S DISSIDENTS' CALL FOR DEMOCRACY NOTED

SK170417 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0339 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA) -- A group of 23 South Korean dissidents including human rights campaigners, academics, Christian ministers and former journalists issued a statement calling for democracy in society on May 16, according to a REUTER report from Seoul.

In the statement read by the Reverend Mun Ik-hwan, they strongly urged the military fascist clique to free almost 100 politicians from a ban on political activity, abolish the blacklists of workers and reinstate journalists who lost their jobs for anti-"government" activities. They accused the United States and Japan of supporting the dictatorial military "government" in Seoul.

The dissidents called upon the South Korean people to boycott the puppet parliamentary "elections" which are expected late this year or early next unless the demands for democracy are met and not to watch programmes of the puppet Korean Broadcasting System (KBS) in protest against distorted reporting of the anti-fascist struggle of the people including students for democracy.

KCNA DENOUNCES 'CIVIL DEFENSE DRILLS' IN SOUTH

SK170419 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0343 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA) -- The South Korean military fascist clique on May 15 drove the "Civilian Defence Corps" and the "Homeland Defence Reserve Forces" into a war exercise at over 3,000 major workshops and industrial establishments throughout South Korea including Inchon harbour, kicking up a din of "alert duty" and "defence", according to a report of "Radio No.1" from Seoul.

The puppets forced a "sheltering training" on peopl at shops and other crowded places and tormented people with a row over "report" and the like. They forced military training even upon students and teachers at schools. This provocative racket shows how desperately the Chon Tu-hwan military fascist clique are trying to divert elsewhere the anti-puppet sentiments of the South Korean people by inciting hostile feelings against the northern half of the country and war fever among them.

SECURITY CHECKS REPORTEDLY INCREASED IN SEOUL

SK170422 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0345 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA) -- The South Korean military fascist clique on May 16 decided to strengthen the guard of foreign establishments, abusing the students' anti-U.S., anti-"government" struggle as "moves of seditious elements", according to "Radio Hanguk Munhwa" in Seoul. The fascist clique blare that police in uniform and plain clothes will be massively posted around the U.S. Embassy and the like to intensify the "check-up and search" and "full preparedness" will be taken to cope with all events. The puppets also decided to strengthen the guard of the frontline police stations and police booths against possible "outbreak of students' demonstration."

All these manoeuvres show what serious uneasiness and fear the Chon Tu-hwan puppet clique are seized with, rejected by the people, fearing the intensified anti-"government" action of the South Korean students with the approach of the 4th anniversary of the Kwangju popular uprising, and how frantically they are trying to check it by intensifying suppression.

STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN SOUTH KOREA REPORTED

SK142231 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 14 May 84

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today in an article says what is noteworthy in the South Korean students' struggle these days is the fact that their demand for independence against U.S. imperialism has been combined with that for democracy against factors and is gradually developing becoming conscious and organized one.

Noting that the struggle of South Korean students for the democratization of the campus and society is gaining momentum, assuming a new trend, the author of the article says: Massive meetings and demonstrations, and sit-in strikes were successively held at more than 60 universities and colleges out of the 99 in South Korea till the end of April since March last, calling for the democratization of campus and society, e.g., "overthrow of the dictatorial 'regime'", "halt to the surveillance of the campus", "abolition of the system of suspension from school for guidance", "disbandment of the Student Homeland Defence Corps" and so on. Notably, nearly 70 demonstrations and sit-in strikes were held by students of 20 universities and colleges till April 13. This is 7 times those in the like period of last year. The South Korean students' struggle shows a tendency to grow fiercer on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the heroic Kwangju popular uprising. The recent massive actions of students draw particular attention as they countered the heinous crackdown and appeasement and deception by the military fascist clique.

The Chon Tu-hwan clique employed stopgap measures, such as "release" and "reinstatement" of some arrested students or expelled students in an attempt to hamstring the students' struggle this year and, at the same time brought forward the so-called "policy of campus autonomy" to win their favor. But the South Korean students rejected such deceptive manoeuvres of the puppet clique and are struggling to form independent, legal student organizations in the campus. What is also noteworthy in their struggle of late is the fact that their struggle is going on at a time when the anti-communist, anti-DPRK racket of the Chon Tu-hwan group and its war din are being further intensified as never before.

While resorting to malicious attempts to shift the blame for the bomb blast in Burma which it caused in October last year on to us, the puppet clique held in succession provocative war exercises dubbed "Team Spirit 84" and "Myolgong (Destroy-Communism) 84" and so on to lead the situation to a dangerous phase.

The students' persistent anti-puppet struggle held even in the teeth of the extensive frantic anti-communist, anti-DPRK intrigues and war racket fully proves that the Chon Tu-hwan group has been thoroughly isolated from and rejected by the people and that the puppets' talk about "national concord" and "social stability" is a sheer lie and hypocrisy. What draws particular attention in the South Korean students' struggle these days is the fact that they strongly demand for the present the liquidation of the colonial fascist rule to achieve the democratization of the campus and society, says the article.

NODONG SINMUN ON CONVERTING JAPAN INTO WAR BASE

SK140830 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0812 GMT 14 May 84

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN May 13 carried an article titled "Japan Converted Into Base for Korean War," which reads in part:

During the unprecedented-in-scope joint military exercises "Team Spirit 84" which ended some time ago, the ground, naval and Air Forces and Marines of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces that had left the U.S. mainland, Hawaii, Guam and other places crawled into South Korea via Japan or were supplied with fuel and other things there for operations. The Okinawa-based U.S. Third Marine Division and other U.S. imperialist aggression forces in Japan participated in the "Team Spirit 84."

This tells that Japan is turning into a U.S. imperialists' base for a Korean war at an accelerated pace. The U.S. imperialists have already turned the Yokoda base in Japan into a relay base for transport of nuclear arms.

During the "Team Spirit 78" the "C-141" transport planes belonging to the U.S. Fifth Airforce Command loaded with missiles flew to the Osan base in South Korea from the U.S. mainland via the Yokoda base. According to data, during the "Team Spirit 83", U.S. transport and fighter planes capable of carrying nuclear weapons took off and touched down at the Yokoda base more than 1,200 times. The Japanese ASAHI SHIMBUN March 18, 1983, exposed that the U.S. imperialists brought anti-submarine nuclear torpedo containers into the Yokoda base.

This proves that the U.S. imperialists have shipped into Japan nuclear weapons from the U.S. mainland, Hawaii, Guam and other military bases overseas, and carried a large number of them to South Korea under the pretext of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

During the "Team Spirit 83" the U.S. imperialists used the "Shimonoseki-Pusan ferryboat" in secrecy in transporting special military vehicles from the Iwakuni base to South Korea several times. The Pusan-Shimonoseki sea route is directly linked with the express highway leading to the Military Demarcation Line.

Entrenched in Okinawa is the U.S. Third Marine Division, a shock force forming the backbone of the "quick deployment force" of U.S. imperialism, which takes the lead in surprise attacks on other countries. This division would crawl into South Korea before any other unit, with several dozen thousand tons of equipment in each "Team Spirit" joint military rehearsal. Facts show that Japan is rapidly turning into a launching base, supply base and attack base of U.S. imperialism for a new war against the DPRK.

PRIME MINISTER KANG SONG-SAN MEETS IRANIAN GROUP

SK140335 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0330 GMT 14 May 84

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council, on May 13 met and had a friendly conversation with Mahmud Jamali, vice-minister of the agriculture of Iran, who was heading a delegation of the ministry. Present on the occasion were Ho Hang-chan, vice-minister of external economic affairs, and A. Nahavandian, ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Korea.

NODONG SINMUN ON DISTRICT FRONT CONSTRUCTION

SK150305 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2141 GMT 13 May 84

[NODONG SINMUN 14 May special article: "The Construction of Five District Fronts Is a Brilliant Embodiment of the Policy of Concentration in Construction"]

[Text] Today we are faced with an important task of vigorously accelerating the construction of the five district fronts, upholding this year's New Year address of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the letter of the party Central Committee. The construction operation in the 5 district fronts by our party is very significant in the struggle to achieve the grand 10 major prospective targets of socialist economic construction. This is because the construction in the five district fronts is closely related to the brilliant embodiment of the party's policy of concentration in construction.

The great leader Comrade Kim II-song has taught: We should correctly decide priority in construction, concentrate main efforts on major construction projects, and accelerate construction in a manner of annihilation battle so that we can expedite the operation date of these projects.

The policy of concentration in construction is aimed at expediting the operation date of major construction projects by concentrating labor, materials, and facilities on them and at increasing the effectiveness of the investment in them. Therefore, this policy is one of the policies that our party has consistently adhered to in construction.

The construction of the five district fronts unfolded by our party is the brilliant embodiment of the party's policy of concentration in construction.

The construction of the five district fronts being the brilliant embodiment of the party's policy of concentration in construction is due to the correct embodiment of the demands of the policy of concentration in correctly deciding construction projects. Correctly deciding priority in capital construction is a precondition to carrying out construction intensively. Therefore, only by correctly deciding priority in construction and, thus, by correctly deciding construction projects can we concentrate main efforts on construction projects with priority and successfully carry out large-scale capital construction.

The policy of concentration in construction demands that the construction projects which are considered to have a key significance in the economic development in the relevant period are adopted as concentrated construction projects.

The most important task that we must face in socialist economic construction today is to carry out the 10 major prospective targets set forth at the sixth party congress. Therefore, the construction projects that we should mainly concentrate at present should be those projects which can serve to achieve the 10 major prospective targets.

The adoption of the construction of the five district fronts as the key projects to firmly open the prospects for carrying out the 10 major prospective targets once again has proven the wisdom of the leadership of our party which has most correctly elucidated the road of struggle by scientifically discerning the prospective demands and realistic conditions.

The construction of the five district fronts being a cardinal task to a firm prospect for the realization of the 10 major prospective targets is because this construction makes it possible to occupy the economic targets which constitute the key point in industries. The key industries which constitute the key factor in the national economy include the power, mining, metal, chemical, machine, and building materials industries.

Only by firmly building and developing the key industries can we equip the various fields of the national economy, including the light industry and agriculture, with the modern technology and rapidly develop them.

The five district fronts, which include Sunchon, Anju, Chongjin, Nampo, and Hamhung, are the construction fronts which have important significance in developing and strengthening the production capability of the key industries, including the power, mining, metal, and chemical industries, and in enhancing their independence and their chuche-oriented nature. Therefore, only when we vigorously carry out the construction of the five district fronts and achieve victory in this can we achieve a decisive advance in occupying the targets of iron, nonferrous metal, electric power, coal, and cloth, which are the most difficult targets in the 10 major prospective targets.

The construction of the five district fronts elucidates all roads toward the occupation of other hills of the 10 major prospective targets. The construction of the five district fronts is also the brilliant embodiment of the policy of concentration in construction because it can guarantee conditions under which we can concentrate our main efforts on major construction projects.

To thoroughly carry out the concentration policy in construction projects, we should not only correctly decide construction projects, but also guarantee all conditions under which construction can be rapidly accelerated by concentrating all possible efforts on these construction projects.

No matter how properly we may decide construction projects, if we fail to guarantee the conditions for the rapid progress of construction at a high speed, we cannot enhance the effectiveness of investment nor can we bring about the superiority of the concentration policy.

With the decision of the construction of the five district fronts as the important construction projects in opening firm prospect for the realization of the 10 major prospective targets, we have been able to enhance the effectiveness of investment by concentrating building materials, facilities, labor, and funds on this.

The construction of the five district fronts is also an important factor in guaranteeing the conditions under which we can concentrate main efforts because it enables us to mobilize and utilize locally available reserves to the maximum.

We now have firm potential for construction in provinces and other rural areas. When we mobilize and utilize this potential, we can solve many problems arising in capital construction.

Because its sites are properly deployed at local areas, the construction of the five district fronts has been able to enhance the sense of responsibility of localities and to mobilize the local potential and efforts to the maximum, while concentrating construction efforts nationwide.

Completing the construction of the five district fronts in a short period through the concentration of all possible efforts on it is an honor and responsible task that we face today.

All functionaries and workers in the sites of the five district construction fronts should vigorously struggle and carry out their assigned construction tasks without fail by displaying the lofty sense of responsibility as revolutionary fighters who are defending the important fronts in the fulfillment of the 10 major prospective targets and the revolutionary spirit of absolutely and unconditionally carrying out party policy.

All guidance functionaries in the construction field should break through all difficulties that they face with firm faith in victory and should vigorously organize and mobilize the masses of working people with bold and militant organizational and command skill. Thus, they should see to it that new records and new miracles are created on all battle sites. Along with this, fields concerned should responsibly carry out the support work for the construction of the five district fronts.

All construction workers should open a firm prospect for the realization of the grand 10 major prospective targets by vigorously accelerating the construction of the five district fronts, upholding the letter of the party Central Committee — to all party members. Thus they should demonstrate again the invincible might of our people firmly united around the party.

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES MOSCOW'S KOREAN POLICY

SK170751 Seoul YONHAP in English 0725 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP) -- South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Won-kyong predicted Thursday that the Soviet Union will attempt to make the Korean peninsula another Vietnam, taking advantage of the coming North Korean leader Kim II-song's visit to Moscow, in an effort to counter the United States, Japan and China in the Far East. Kim is expected to request the Soviet military aid, including MIG-23, and MIG-25 fighters and ground-to-air missiles, and economic and technical assistance to ease its economic difficulties, Yi said.

Answering questions by lawmakers at the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee, Yi said Chinese Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang's recent visit to Pyongyang and Kim's scheduled visit to the Soviet Union are not expected to have a good effect in the short term on South Korea's efforts to improve relations with Beijing and Moscow. The possibility that the Soviet Union and China would competitively assist Pyongyang in contingencies on the Korean peninsula cannot be excluded, Yi added.

In the long term, Yi continued to say, the current developments in the relationships between the Soviet Union, China and North Korea could drive Moscow and Beijing to maintain a status quo policy on the Korean peninsula. On the possible effect of the Soviet boycott of the Los Angeles Olympic Games on the 1988 Seoul Olympics, Yi said the Soviet Union and other communist bloc nations have showed so far no particular movements in connection with their participation in the Seoul Olympics.

Explaining the results of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's recent visit to Beijing, the foreign minister disclosed that there were discussions on the Korean question between U.S. and Chinese leaders in which Yi said Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian indicated China's intention to take part in the 1986 Asian Games to be held in Seoul. Yi said the U.S. Government has informed the South Korean Government that it had found China was well aware of the military and economic gaps between South and North Korea and was willing to continue such non-political exchanges as sports with South Korea though on a limited scale.

The United States made it clear to the Chinese leaders that the withdrawal of U.S. forces in Korea cannot be an object of negotiations because the maintenance of war deterrence by the United States and South Korea is essential for easing tension on the Korean peninsula, Yi said. The United States also showed its firm determination while Reagan was in China by indicating that it would not seek a reduction of tension on the Korean peninsula by conceding to Pyongyang, Yi added.

Touching on Hu's visit to North Korea, Yi said, China, seeking Pyongyang's understanding, must have explained its permission to grant mutual visits by Korean families separated between China and South Korea. China also seemed to have played an important role in improving the relationships between Japan and North Korea by conveying Japanese thoughts related to the solution of issues pending between Tokyo and Pyongyang.

In connection with the possibility of North Korea's participation in the Los Angeles Olympics, Yi said the official postition of the North is not yet clear. "The North will not be able to give it up so easily because the games are part of its efforts to approach the United States."

However, Yi said, the North is highly likely to follow the lead of the Soviet Union due to the necessity for closer ties with Moscow. Pyongyang could also use it an an excuse to boycott the 1988 Seoul games, he said.

DPRK PREMIER'S ADVANCE IN POWER LINEUP REPORTED

SK170029 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 17 May 84 p 1

[Text] Kang Song-san, premier of North Korea, has apparently advanced to the fourth ranking in the North Korean power lineup, the NAEWOE PRESS reported yesterday. This advance was indicated as Kang was introduced after Kim Il-song, his son Chong-il and O Chin-u, minister of the People's Armed Forces, during official ceremonies held when Chinese party chief Hu Yaobang visited North Korea May 4-11. Three vice presidents Pak Song-chol, Yim Chun-chu and Yi Chong-ok were listed after Kang, who was placed eighth during the Third Session of the Seventh Supreme People's Congress held last January.

EDITORIAL URGES NORTH TO CONTINUE SPORTS TALKS

SK161340 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 16 May 84 p 2

[Editorial: "The North's Attitude of Rejecting Sports Talks"]

[Text] In a 9 May letter to the chairman of the Olympic Committee of North Korea, Chong Chu-yong, president of the Korea Amateur Sports Association and chairman of the Korea Olympic Committee proposed an early third round meeting of the North-South sports talks. However, the North Korean side, on 12 May, sent us a reply virtually rejecting the continuation of the talks. This greatly disappoints us.

As all know, the first and second recounds of the North-South sports talks, held on 9 and 30 April respectively in Panmunjon to discuss the formation of a single North-South sports team to participate in the Los Angeles Olympic Games in July and other international games, and to discuss the question of sports exchanges between the North and the South, all skidded, because of the insincere attitude that the North Korean side adopted at the talks.

More specifically, at the first and second rounds of the talks, our side held that the North Korean side should show sincerity toward the talks by frankly admitting the crimes of the Rangoon incident and the abduction of Choe Un-hui and Sin Sang-ok and by making apology and taking convincing steps regarding the crimes. Our side also called for the North Korean side to guarantee the security of our athletes when participating in international games in a single team of the North and the South. However, the North Korean side deliberately brought the talks to a rupture by unilaterally walking out of the talks during the first round and by using obscene language and acting violently at the second round.

Regretfully, in the reply it sent on 12 May, the North Korean side showed no remorse at all for its insincerity toward the talks. Saying that it has nothing to do with the two incidents, the North Korean side went on to defame us by distorting our just demands as political provocations. It made a far-fetched assertion that it would return to the talks only if we abandon the above demands. This is a classic example of a thief crying "stop thief" and cannot be construed as an attitude of seeking success in the talks.

We can easily note the following two aspects as the hidden intentions of the North Korean side: First, the North Korean side, through the first and second rounds of talks, clearly realized that it would be difficult to use the sports talks for its political purposes. Thus, the North Korean side is, it is clear, now seeking to discontinue the talks.

From the beginning, North Korea's belated response to our proposal for North-South sports talks was a false peace offensive aimed at improving its diplomatic image. Since the Rangoon bomb blast, North Korea has been internationally branded as a terrorist group. At the sports talks our side demanded an acknowledgment of and an apology for the Rangoon bombing and other incidents. The North Korean side was greatly dismayed at this and is now desperately trying to extricate itself from this predicament by discontinuing the talks.

Second, with an intention to join the Soviets' boycott of the Los Angeles Olympic Games, replying, the North Korean side has certainly put the blame for the skids in the sports talks on our side and demanded what we cannot accept in order to bring the talks to a state of virtual discontinuation. In this connection, we can say that Kim II-song, prior to his visit to the Soviet Union late this month, is in a position to actively court the Soviet Union for his son's inheritance of power and military support for the adventurous line against the South, and this kind of political calculation was considered in adopting the attitude of rejecting the sports talks.

However, the sports talks between the North and the South, which had been arranged for the first time in 5 years, must not end, because the nation's hope for national harmony and mankind's expectations for peace on the Korean peninsula are all concentrated on the success of the talks. Accordingly, we once again strongly hold that the North Korean side, if it does not want to betray the desire of the nation and mankind and wants to avoid even more serious international isolation, must immediately come out for the third round of the talks by unhesitatingly responding to our just demand.

ROK-INDONESIA COOPERATION MEETING TO OPEN IN MAY

SK170435 Seoul YONHAP in English 0253 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP) -- The fourth South Korea-Indonesia conference will be held here May 21-23 to examine policy issues for long term development cooperation between the two countries. The Institute for Far Eastern Studies at Kyungnam University in Korea and the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Indonesia will preside over the conference jointly, and 130 people from schools, businesses, the press, and political circles will participate in the conference.

Maj. Gen. Sujono Humardani, inspector general for development, Dr. Daud Yusuf, a member of Supreme Advisory Council, Sabam Siagian from the JAKARTA POST, Sarwono Kusumaatmadja, secretary-general of the ruling Golkar Party are some of the distinguished Indonesians to participate in the conference. Although Korean President Chun Tu-hwan's state visit to Indonesia in 1981 and Indonesian President Suharto's state visit to Korea in 1982 have already brought about the consolidation of friendly relations between the two countries, this conference will explore ways to promote further their cooperative relations in politics, economics and culture.

The conference will start with a discussion of political and security trends in the western Pacific in the year 2000 and their implications for Korea and Indonesia. Economic trends in the region and their implications for Korea and Indonesia will be examined. The five-year development plan of Indonesia and the past and future of Korean economic development will then be discussed.

The foreign policies of Korea and Indonesia and international challenges they will meet in the future will be dealt with. Upon the basis of these discussions, a panel will assess the past, present, and future of Korea-Indonesia relations. The following are the themes of five sessions:

- -- The western Pacific in the year 2000, political and security trends and their implications for Korea and Indonesia;
- -- The western Pacific in the year 2000, economic trends and their implications for Korea and Indonesia;
- -- Economic development and challenges;
- -- Foreign policy and challenges;
- --Korea-Indonesia relations, past, present and future.

ROK, PAKISTAN AGREE TO PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

SK170642 Seoul YONHAP in English 0614 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP) -- South Korean and Pakistani parliamentary leaders Thursday agreed here to promote the formation of a bilateral parliamentary friendship association. The agreement came during a 40-minute-long talk between visiting Chairman of the Pakistani Federal Council (parliament) Khawaja Muhammad Safdar and his Korean counterpart, Speaker Chae Mun-sik. Safdar paid a courtesy call on Chae at his office.

Chae proposed the formation of a Korea-Pakistan parliamentarians association, stressing the cooperation between the two countries' parliaments should be followed by exchanges. Safdar agreed with the proposal. Chae said, "It is necessary to establish relations of complementary cooperation between the two countries, as developing countries." Safdar responded, "Good cooperation between the two countries will be achieved because of the fact that Pakistan has abundant resources, while Korea holds superb skills." Safdar flew into Seoul Wednesday for a week long visit at the invication of Chae.

AIR FORCE SPONSORS 'AEROSPACE SCIENCE' SYMPOSIUM

SK170844 Seoul YONHAP in English 0825 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP) -- A symposium on "aerospace science" was held at Seoul's Air Force Club Thursday morning with the attendance of some 300 high-ranking officers and officials from the military, national security research institutes, defense industries and academic societies. The two-day symposium, sponsored by the South Korean Air Force, is the first of its kind held on the subject in the nation's military history.

In an opening statement, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Kim Sang-tae said that the symposium would be an important turning point in strengthening the national defense capability and facilitating the development of aerospace science by providing information and making its importance understood. "As more and more countries are participating in the intense race of developing aerospace weapons to secure their military superiority over other nations in future wars, those who control the airspace will govern the world in the 2000's," he said.

In today's discussion, Gen. James Hartinger, commander of the U.S. air space command, spoke on "the U.S. Air Force space command's mission, status and future development." The North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) is thoroughly detecting and tracking every object in the space, and one of its surveillance posts, space electronic optical surveillance system, is stationed in Taegu, some 300 kilometers south of Secul, he said.

Lt. Gen. Charles Donnelly, commander of the U.S. Forces in Japan, said that the Soviet Union had deployed 40 backfire bombers in the Far East, posing threats to South Korea, Japan, China and the Philippines.

The U.S. general also said more than one third of the Soviet Union's 330 SS-20 intermediate nuclear missiles had been deployed in the same area and that the Russian Far Eastern Air Force now has 1,700 combat aircrafts.

On Friday, U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Robert Coverdale and Maj. Gen. Charles Hamm and Korean Air Force Maj. Gen. Ham Tae-sang will speak.

STUDENTS HOLD DEMONSTRATIONS AT FIVE UNIVERSITIES

SK170023 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 17 May 84 p 8

[Text] Some 1,500 students of five universities in Seoul demonstrated on the Kwanak campus of Seoul National University Tuesday afternoon after they joined in a seminar on the "Crisis on the Korean Peninsula and the Unification of the People." The seminar was the last of a series of such gatherings which have been held jointly by the Students' Defense Corps of five universities in Seoul including Korea, Yonsei, Ewha, Songgyungwan and Seoul National.

As has been usual, the seminar was followed by students' demonstration on the campus of the host school. The students in scrimmages tried to rush out of the campus to the streets, but were controlled by the police force outside the campus. The students, on the other hand, agreed to form a committee of the "promotion of discussion on the unification matter."

DKP RENEWS DEMAND FOR LIFTING POLITICAL BAN

SK160017 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 16 May 84 p 1

[Text] The major opposition Democratic Korea Party [DKP] yesterday renewed its demands for abolition of undemocratic laws, local autonomy, restoration of parliamentary function and promotion of a free press "to realize true democracy." In an inaugural session of the Central Standing Committee at the DKP headquarters, the opposition party stressed that the chief aim of the DKP will be winning the next general election and achieving a peaceful transfer of the government in the near future.

The DKP called upon the government to immediately lift the political ban still imposed upon former politicians so as to pave the way for ensuring political development. These were included in a four-point resolution adopted by the major opposition party during the inaugural session of the committee.

In the session which lasted for about an hour, the DKP unanimously elected Rep. Oh Hongsuk as chairman of the committee. The panel consists of 186 members of the major opposition party, including 81 incumbent DKP lawmakers.

In the meantime, the 20 reinstated politicians who joined the DKP last month became members of the committee. In the resolution, the DKP called upon the government to scrap entirely all restrictive status contrary to democratic principles, such as the basic press law. The party demanded that the government implement local autonomy in order to hasten the political development towards "a genuine democracy."

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS -- Seoul, May 16 (YONHAP) -- South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan Wednesday morning received separate credentials from Ambassador Pauli Opas of Finland, Joseph Gibson of the Fiji Islands and Arthur Basnayake of Sri Lanka at the presidential residence Chongwadae. The new ambassadors are concurrently representing their countries in Japan. [Text] [Seoul YONHAP in English 0313 GMT 16 May 84 SK]

VODK VIEWS SRV TROOPS WITHDRAWAL 'FARCE'

BK160515 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 15 May 84

[Station commentary: "The Whole World Is Well Aware of the Vietnamese Le Duan Aggressors' Deceitful Farce on Partial Troop Withdrawals"]

[Text] The Le Duan Vietnamese aggressors have tried hard to deceive the world that they will withdraw a part of theur aggressor troops from Kampuchea at the end of May.

- 1. This is deceitful propaganda to enable the Vietnamese aggressors to launch more diplomatic maneuvers at a time when they are in a very serious situation on the Kampuchean battlefield and in the international arena where the world community has continued to condemn them and demand that they withdraw all of their aggressor troops from Kampuchea in accordance with the UN General Assembly resolutions.
- 2. The Vietnamese aggressors have made this announcement on troop withdrawals from Kampuchea many times now. They have staged this troop withdrawal farce every year. But, in fact, they have not withdrawn a single soldier from Kampuchea. On the contrary, the Vietnamese Le Duan aggressors have continued to send more aggressor troops to occupy Kampuchea and massacre the Kampuchean people. The whole world is well aware of this.
- 3. By announcing this farce of a troop withdrawal from Kampuchea at the end of the sixth dry season, the Vietnamese Le Duan aggressors want to conceal their serious defeats suffered on the Kampuchean battlefield during this dry season and to fool the world into believing that they can withdraw part of their troops from Kampuchea because they have scored victories during this dry season. Even the least knowledgeable analyst can see clearly that during the sixth dry season, the Le Duan Vietnamese suffered serious defeats because the Kampuchean people aggressors repeatedly and the Democratic Kampuchean National Army smashed their strategic positions in provincial towns both east and west of the Tonle Sap Lake. The Democratic Kampuchean National Army repeatedly attacked these places, three or four times each, thus inflicting heavy losses of lives and supplies on the Vietnamese aggressors. As a result these attacks by the Democratic Kampuchean National Army, the Vietnamese aggressors have lost the initiative to launch any operation since October 1983, the beginning of this sixth dry season. Only after the middle of March, within a month of the end of this dry season, did the Vietnamese aggressors launch an offensive along the Kampuchean-Thai border. However, this offensive was simly a last-ditch effort. It failed to salvage the Vietnamese aggressors from their serious situation.
- 4. This obsolete farce is aimed at deceiving the world into relaxing its pressure on the Vietnamese aggressors to withdraw their troops from Kampuchea and at avoiding the implementation of the five UN General Assembly resolutions demanding that the Vietnamese aggressors withdraw their aggressor troops totally and unconditionally from Kampuchea and respect the Kampuchean people's right to self-determination without any outside interference.

However, the Le Duan Vietnamese aggressors have suffered repeated defeats in this attempt. Every year, their evil face has been laid bare. No one is going to believe the Le Duan Vietnamese aggressors. No one is going to take the Vietnamese aggressors' words and deceitful farce seriously. All the peace- and justice-loving peoples, countries, and governments throughout the world have stood firm behind the UN General Assemblu resolutions and firmly demanded that the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors withdraw their troops totally and unconditionally from Kampuchea to allow the Kampuchean people decide their own destiny without any outside interference.

This year again, the Vietnamese aggressors' diplomatic maneuvers launched through this troop withdrawal farce will also face a most shameful defeat. This is because, first, the entire Kampuchean people and Democratic Kampuchean National Army and the CGDK will never fall for the Vietnamese trick. We know the Vietnamese Le Duan aggressors well; we will continue to stand firm on our goal of jointly fighting against the Vietnamese Le Duan aggressors until they are compelled to withdraw all of their aggressor troops from Kampuchea. Second, the peoples, countries and governments in this region and elsewhere throughout the world that cherish peace, justice, and independence will not fall for Vietnam's deceitful trick of a partial troop withdrawal farce. The withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea will be the only real proof of Vietnamese sincerity. As long as the Vietnamese aggressors refuse to withdraw all of their troops from Kampuchea, the world will continue to pressure the Vietnamese Le Duan aggressors and to side with and support the Kampuchean people, thus forcing the Vietnamese Le Duan aggressors to withdraw all their troops from Kampuchea in accordance with the five UN General Assembly resolutions. This Vietnamese diplomatic maneuver of a partial troop withdrawal will certainly be condemned, exposed, and frustrated as before by the Kampuchean people and other people in the world.

BRIEFS

SOVIET RED CROSS AID -- Phnom Penh SPK May 11 -- The Soviet Embassy in Phnom Penh has conveyed to the Red Cross of Kampuchea (RCK) 400 stretchers as aid from the Union of Red Cross Societies of the Soviet Union. Receiving the donation RCK President Phlek Phirun thanked the Soviet people for their moral and material support to the Kampuchean people. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 0439 GMT 12 May 84 BK]

RED CROSS RELIEF -- Phnom Penh SPK May 14 -- The Red Cross of Kampuchea last month provided relief for 194 families in Battambang Province, northwest of Phnom Penh. The relief included mosquito nets, cloth, canned food, household utensils and farm tools.

[Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1142 GMT 14 May 84 BK]

BUDDHIST DELEGATION -- A Kampuchean Buddhist delegation led by Superior Bonze Tep Vong, vice chairman of the PRK National Assembly and of the KUFNCD National Council and chairman of the Kampuchean Center of Asian Buddhist Council for Peace, left Phnom Penh on the morning of 15 May to attend the international conference on Buddhist contributions to opposing nuclear war to be held in New Delhi, India, on 21-22 May 1984. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 16 May 84 BK]

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES ASEAN KAMPUCHEA STANCE

BK161504 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 16 May 84

[Unattributed commentary: "ASEAN Should Adopt a Realistic Attitude for the Common Interests of the Region"]

[Text] On 8 May, a special session of ASEAN foreign ministers issued a joint statement which repeats accusations by China and by Thai reactionaries against the SRV as well as other Indochinese countries and affirms ASEAN's erroneous policy on the so-called Kampuchea question, thus turning a blind eye on the true situation in Southeast Asia.

Everyone knows that over the past 5 years the Beijing ruling circles, in collusion with U.S. imperialists, have sought every possible way to enable the Pol Pot clique to return to power, opposed the revival of the Kampuchean people, pursued a hostile policy against the three Indochinese countries, and sabotaged peace and stability in Southeast Asia. All this is the root cause of the current tension in the region.

The three Indochinese countries, which are carrying out a just struggle and which are aspiring for peace, stability, and regional cooperation, have expressed their good intentions and have forwarded methods on several occasions over the past 5 years to settle problems. For example, they have proposed discussions and twice withdrew Vietnamese volunteer soldiers. They have also declared that the soldiers will be totally withdrawn once China puts an end to its threats to the three Indochinese countries and the security of Kampuchea is ensured. All these proposals have enjoyed the support and approval of not only public opinion in Southeast Asia but also world public opinion.

Nevertheless, it is a pity that the above ASEAN foreign ministers meeting statement does not respond to the true situation, because ASEAN said that it wanted meetings and talks on the one hand, while it continues to maintain its erroneous attitude on the other hand — that is, it continues to persistently call on the three Indochinese countries to unilaterally accept is nonsensical proposals. While calling for the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Kampuchea and pledging to support the Kampuchean tripartite government, ASEAN has failed to mention China, and has not called on China to stop feeding the Pol Pot clique and the Kampuchean reactionaries who are currently opposing the PRK. ASEAN has never criticized China and the Thai reactionaries for colluding to oppose peace and security in the PRK.

ASEAN has declared that it will continue to support the Kampuchean tripartite coalition government which, as everyone knows, is the Pol Pot murderous clique wearing a new robe. Moreover, ASEAN has condemned Vietnam for violating Thailand's sovereignty and territorial integrity and expressed sympathy, support, and solidarity with Thailand in carrying out self-defense actions. This further reflects ASEAN's erroneous attitude. As a matter of fact, Thai territory has been used for implementing Beijing's hostile policy against the Kampuchean, Lao, and Vietnamese peoples and as a sanctuary for the Pol Pot clique, while Thai troops have infiltrated into and nibbled at the PRK's territory together with the Pol Pot clique.

After taking all the facts into consideration, it is clear from the ASEAN statement that the ruling cliques in some ASEAN countries continue to stubbornly follow China in their confrontation with the three Indochinese countries, thus running counter to the spirit and aspirations of various nations which desire to make this region a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation.

To bring peace and security to the region for the common interest of the various nations in the region, ASEAN should reconsider its attitude and should adopt a good-intentioned and objective attitude; otherwise, there will be obstacles to efforts to resolve the situation and ease tension.

Once this tension deteriorates, it will only bring adverse effects to countries in Southeast Asia and will benefit the Chinese expansionists-hegemonists.

[Vientiane KPL in English at 0854 GMT on 16 May identified the above item as a 16 May PASASON commentary]

NOUHAK PHOUMSAVAN MEETS PRK FINANCE DELEGATION

BK161507 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] On the afternoon of 15 May, a PRK Finance Ministry delegation led by Chan Phin, secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and minister of finance, paid a courtesy call on Nouhak Phoumsavan, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers. Nguon Phansiphon, PRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, also joined the delegation in paying the courtesy call.

During the talk, which was filled with an atmosphere of profound and cordial friendship, Nouhak Phoumsavan highly evaluated the success of the cooperation between the two parties, states, and Finance Ministries of Laos and Kampuchea. He noted that ever growing financial cooperation, which is beneficial to the peoples of the two countries. At the same time, he mentioned the achievements and victories of the Kampuchean Army and people in defeating the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Sihanouk-Son Sann clique, in defending the country, and in the revival of the fraternal Kampuchean people. He expressed support for this struggle. In conclusion, Nouhak Phoumsavan noted the special solidarity and all-round cooperation among the three Indochinese countries.

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT HAILS VISITING PRK ACROBATS

BK161459 Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Vientiane, May 16 (OANA-KPL) -- Phoumi Vongvichit, member of the party Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, yesterday, received here the visiting Kampuchean acrobats led by its vice minister of propaganda, culture and information Chey Sophea. At the meeting full of the spirit of friendship and cordiality, Phoumi Vongvichit hailed the visit of the Kampuchean artists who have helped to entertain a large number of Lao public. The Lao leader furthermore attached the importance to the chance that Lao and Kampuchean acrobats have exchanged lessons with [one] another during the Kampuchean acrobats' tour. Beside Vientiane, the Kampuchean artists will also perform for the public in the southern Champassak Province.

BRIEFS

BRIDGES CEREMONY IN HOUA PHAN -- Vientiane, May 12 (OANA-KPL) -- A ceremony of hand-over of five Vietnam-built bridges was recently held in the northern province of Houa Phan Province. The construction work, begun in 1981 and completed at the beginning of this month, was done by the bridge construction unit of the Vietnamese Ministry of Communication and transport. The length of bridges ranges from 24 to 74 metres and can support the load of 10 to 60 tons. Four of the bridges are along highway N 6 (stretching from Xieng Khouang to Sam Neua Province) and one is in Sam Neua District itself. Present at the hand-over ceremony were Dala Vongvichit, head of the Construction Department of the Lao Ministry of Transport and Posts and Le Ngoc Houan, head of the Vietnamese construction unit who signed the document of hand-over of the bridges. Witnessing the ceremony were Thongphan, vice chairman of the provincial party committee and chairman of the administrative committee, and representative of the Vietnamese Embassy to Laos. [Excerpt] [Vientaine KPL in English 0919 GMT 12 May 84 BK]

DEFENSE MINISTER VAN TIEN DUNG VISITS USSR

Departs for 'Socialist Countries'

OW161508 Hanoi VNA in English 1448 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 16 -- A military delegation led by
General Van Tien Dung, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Viet Nam
Central Committee and minister of national defence, left here today for an official
friendship visit to a number of socialist countries. It was seen off by Pham Hung,
Political Bureau member of the party C.C. and vice-chairman of the Council of
Ministers; General Chu Huy Man, Political Bureau member of the party C.C. and head
of the Vietnam People's Army General Political Department; General Hoang Van Thai,
member of the party C.C. and vice-minister of national defence; Senior Lieutenant
General Le Trong Tan, member of the party C.C., vice-minister of national defence and
chief of the General Staff of the V.P.A.; and other senior officers. Ambassadors and
military attaches of socialist embassies here were present.

Meets Ustinov in Moscow

BK171022 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The Vietnamese military delegation led by Defense Minister General Van Tien Dung stopped over in Moscow Wednesday, 16 May, on his way to visit some socialist countries. The Vietnamese general and his party were received by Soviet Defense Minister Marshal Ustinov. The two sides exchanged views on issues of mutual concern.

Soviet Reportage

For Soviet reportage on Defense Minister Van Tien Dung's visit to Moscow, see the Southeast Asia and Pacific section of the 17 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

'HUNDREDS' OF PRC TROOPS ANNIHILATED ON BORDER

OW161215 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] The Chinese authorities have created serious incidents again along the Vietnamese-Chinese border. On 15 May 1984, after having their troops fire more than 6,000 artillery and mortar shells at Hills 1558, 1387, 1427, and 1030 and at the Thanh Thuy intersection, they mobilized an infantry regiment from the Kunming Great military region to launch many attacks on Hill 1030.

Heightening their vigilance and fighting resourcefully and valiantly, the Armed Forces and people in Ha Tuyen Province promptly punished the Chinese aggressor troops and scored outstanding feats of arms, annihilating hundreds [haangf traam] of enemy troops.

On the same day, in Cao Bang Province, Chinese troops lobbed more than 1,000 artillery and mortar rounds into the southwestern area of Marker 62 in Trung Khanh District. In Lang Son Province, they fired more than 2,000 artillery rounds at Hills 820 and 636 in Trang Dinh District, setting afire a number of the local people's homes and ravaging ricefields, gardens, and crops.

The Armed Forces and people in Cao Bang and Lang Son, standing combat ready and counterattacking promptly and vigorously, destroyed two mortar emplacements and set ablaze five of the enemy's artillery vehicles.

Developing the historic Dien Bien Phu tradition, the Armed Forces in Quang Ninh Province have closely coordinated and stood combat ready in the fight against the Chinese aggressors to firmly protect the border and rich coal-mining areas of the country.

Many Army units in the border districts of Hai Ninh, Binh Lieu, Tien Yen, Quang Ha, and Cam Pha, fully aware of the combat situation and operational terrains, have cooperated with border troops and public security, militia, and self-defense forces in holding study sessions on the fight against the enemy's multifaceted war of sabotage, working out coordinated combat plans, and maintaining security and order. Groups B-95 and H-42 and the local people have built clean, strong terrains and "people's hearts" strongholds. As a result, since early April, the Armed Forces and people in the border districts of Hai Ninh and Quang Ha have closely coordinated in combat and combat-support activities; detecting and promptly counterattacking the Chinese aggressor troops; destroying many artillery emplacements, weapons, and military vehicles; annihilating many enemy troops; capturing spies; and preventing border-crossing schemes and illegal transactions in border areas. Many combatants have picked up and delivered the enemy's psychological warfare goods to their units.

Commentary on PRC 'Aggression'

BK161622 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 16 May 84

[Station commentary: "We Are Determined To Counter China's Acts of Aggression"]

[Text] Following their continual shelling, incursions, and land-grabbing acts along Vietnam's northern border since early April, the Chinese aggressors on 15 May once again fired thousands of artillery and mortar shells into many areas of Ha Tuyen, Cao Bang, and Lang Son Provinces. In Ha Tuyen Province in particular, after ordering its troops to fire more than 6,000 artillery and mortar shells, China mobilized an infantry regiment of the Kunming Great Military Region to launch several waves of attacks on Hill 1030.

The Chinese aggressors' criminal acts were duly punished. Hundreds of enemy soldiers were annihilated. The exploits of the Armed Forces and people of Ha Tuyen, Cao Bang, and Lang Son Provinces have inspired the people throughout the country with enthusiasm.

In fact, since early April, the Chinese reactionaries have waged a real war in all six northern border provinces of Vietnam. They have moved several main force Army corps close to the Vietnamese border and sent a component of their forces to grab a number of places in Vietnamese territory. At the same time, they have fired thousands of artillery and mortar shells at more than 100 points in 26 districts of the 6 Vietnamese northern border provinces from Lai Chau to Quang Ninh. Their targets consisted mostly of warehouses, granaries, agricultural supply storehouses, hydroelectic power stations, production areas, and villages and hamlets. These actions by the Chinese aggressors have caused the situation at the northern border of Vietnam to become extremely tense and dangerous.

Obviously, these actions by China are not simply acts of provocation and harassment but have become serious acts of war in Vietnam's northern border area. The Chinese have not only invaded Vietnamese territory but have also repeated the blatant criminal acts they had committed during their war of aggression in February 1979. They have destroyed many Vietnamese economic establishments and killed Vietnamese civilians. With these actions, the Beijing expansionists have laid bare their intent of stopping at no trick to weaken Vietnam and eventually annex it and have exposed their warmongering and reactionary colors to Chinese opinion. With their criminal acts of aggression against the northern border provinces of Vietnam, the Beijing authorities have also dropped the mask of peace and friendship with Vietnam which they have often worn.

Moreover, their criminal acts of aggression have also clearly shown that China's strategy and tactics toward Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea have not only not changed but have become increasingly more hostile.

At present, China is continuing to mass its troops and weapons in various areas bordering Vietnam. It is the Chinese expansionists' scheme to annex Vietnam and the entire Indochinese peninsula for expansion into Southeast Asia. This perfidious scheme of China is a long-term one.

In implementing this scheme, China has received the backing of U.S. imperialism. Reagan's recent trip to China has testified to this fact. This also marked an escalation of the reactionary Sino-U.S. collusion. The Indian paper HINDU correctly assessed that in order to pursue its regional hegemonism, China is seeking to threaten Vietnam. It is clear that this is the most ironic thinking in history because Beijing has called other people hegemonists.

China's escalation of the war of aggression against Vietnam is being condemned by world public opinion. They are demanding that the Beijing ruling circles immediately end these acts of aggression.

The United States and some other reactionary forces are the only ones who support these Chinese actions. But it is the U.S. paper THE WASHINGTON POST that said that despite Reagan's support for Chinese acts of aggression, this fact can in no way dispell the feelings of almost all of the neighboring countries of China conderning China's aggressive hegemonist, and expansionist designs.

The Vietnamese people have always honored the long-standing friendship between the two peoples of Vietnam and China and wish to maintain peaceful coexistence with China. But faced with the many cruel schemes, the extremely stubborn attitude, and the highly frenzied hostile policy of the Chinese authorities, the Vietnamese people are determined to resist and defeat the multifaceted war of sabotage waged by the Beijing reactionaries in collusion with U.S. imperialism. They are resolved to defeat all the enemy's wars of aggression in order to defend the independence and freedom of our beloved Vietnamese fatherland.

NHAN DAN Hails Forces

BK170228 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Under the title "Deal Painful Blows to the Heads of the Chinese Aggressors," a commentary carried in NHAN DAN today [17 May] says:

Hail to the Armed Forces and people of Ha Tuyen who, with their combat prowess, valor, and resourcefulness, have for over a month now fought persistently to firmly defend the fatherland's borders.

Hail to the combatants defending the towering heights -- the battlefields of Vietnamese revolutionary heroism.

Hail to the people of all nationalities of Ha Tuyen Province who have adopted a noble pattern of life and combat: When the enemy arrives, they fight and support the Armed Forces in combat; and when the enemy withdraws, they again resume production activities in a calm, steadfast, and confident manner.

This is an iron-clad answer to the Chinese aggressors' shameless challenge and their acts of war escalation. This is an example of the determination to fight and win over the Chinese expansionists-hegemonists.

It is shameless that while China was sending its troops to invade and commit crimes at Hill 1030 in Ha Tuyen Province, at the second session of the Sixth Chinese National People's Congress on 15 May, Zhao Ziyang again reiterated the shopworn slanderous charge that Vietnam has attacked and provoked China.

While his hands were still stained with the blood of the Vietnamese people, Zhao was brazen to the point of pretending to feel sorry for the worsening of the traditional age-old friendly relations between Vietnam and China. In his speech before the congress, Zhao not only hurled slanders at Vietnam and the Soviet Union, but also advanced unreasonable conditions reeking of expansionism.

The Chinese reactionaries' criminal acts at the Sino-Vietnamese border areas and the arrival in Beijing of the supreme commander of the Thai Armed Forces following Reagan's trip to China show ever more clearly the extremely reactionary and deceitful nature of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists.

They collude with Washington and reactionary forces in the region in continuing to frenziedly oppose the independence, sovereignty, and national reconstruction undertaking of our people and the peoples of the three Indochinese countries as a whole, thereby seriously threatening peace and stability in Southeast Asia. They are the very culprit responsible for undermining Sino-Vietnamese friendship and worsening bilateral relations at variance with the desire of the peoples of both countries.

The Beijing reactionaries' strategies and tactics toward our country have not only remained unchanged but have also become even more hostile. Their fundamental and long-term scheme is to weaken, exhaust, and eventually annex our country to pave the way for their expansion toward Southeast Asia.

They are continuing to mass many regular Army units close to the border of our country and are intensively moving arms supplies and building fortifications in an attempt to attack and nibble at our country's border territory.

Let the Armed Forces and people in the northern border provinces stand combat ready and fight well and, developing the victories already recorded, deal heavy blows to the heads of the Chinese aggressors!

Let us duly punish them and firmly defend every hill, every forest, and every stream in order to safeguard our fatherland's northern frontiers!

While giving their affection, support, and comprehensive assistance to the compatriots and combatants on the northern border, the people throughout our country do not slacken their vigilance even for a minute. They are resolved to defeat the kind of multifaceted war of sabotage launched by the Chinese reactionaries in collusion with the U.S. imperialists, and to carry out satisfactorily the two strategic tasks of building and defending the socialist fatherland.

We have always cherished the age-old friendship between the two peoples of Vietnam and China and wish for coexistence in peace and friendship with China and other countries in Southeast Asia. However, in the face of the Chinese reactionaries' barbarous aggression, our people are determined to fight and smash all of their military adventures

NHAN DAN VIEWS CARE FOR SOLDIERS, FAMILIES

BK151525 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 13 May 84

[NHAN DAN 14 May editorial: "Implement the Various Army Rear Policies Satisfactorily"]

[Text] All our country's socioeconomic activities and programs are aimed at achieving the four objectives set by the Fifth Party Congress, including that of meeting the requirements of national defense, consolidating national defense, and firmly maintaining political security.

The complicated development of the situation in Southeast Asia and the world brought about by the new, extremely insidious schemes of the U.S. imperialists acting hand in glove with the Chinese expansionists—hegemonists and other international reactionary forces requires that our people work and fight to the best of their ability in order to meet this objective at any costs.

The recent barbarous acts conducted by the Beijing reactionaries in shelling, sabotaging, and invading Vietnam, and their massive support for the genocidal Pol Pot clique show that China's strategies and tactics toward Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea have not only remained unchanged but have also become even more hostile. The fundamental and long-term scheme of the Chinese expansionists-hegemonists is to subjugate and annex Vietnam and the rest of Indochina to pave the way for its expansion to Southeast Asia.

Colluding ever more closely with the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces, they are intensively carrying out a kind of very perifidious multifaceted war of sabotage against our people and, at the same time, they are attacking and nibbling at a number of areas while making preparations for a large-scale war of aggression.

Therefore, we must build a comprehensive and modern all-people national defense system and rely on the strength of the laboring people's collective mastery and of the entire socialist system to create a combined strength with which to defend the socialist fatherland.

Having gone through a protracted struggle against the biggest and numerically strongest forces of aggression, our cadres and combatants always remain highly loyal children of the people and the fatherland. They are marvelously valiant and ready to make lofty sacrifices, thus being worthy of great President Ho Chi Minh's teaching: Be loyal to the country and filial to the people, fulfill all missions, overcome all difficulties, and defeat all enemies.

In particular, the recent glorious fights of our cadres and combatants on the northern border and of Vietnamese volunteer troops in Kampuchea once again glorify Vietnamese revolutionary heroism and the fine traditions and noble nature of our Army -- an Army that won the 1954 Dien Bien Phu victory and the great 1975 spring victory.

The Chinese reactionaries, acting in collusion with the U.S. imperialists, nurture the long-term scheme of weakening, exhausting, and eventually annexing our country. Therefore, for a long time our country has been in a position of having to cope with war. The task of building powerful Armed Forces and consolidating national defense and security always remains a strategically important task that means the survival of our nation. A stable and strong rear is a factor deciding victory on the frontline. Implementing the various Army rear policies satisfactorily is one of the important conditions for strengthening national defense. It is the responsibility, obligation, and a sacred feeling of all our party and people.

The situation is placing before all party committee echelons, administrative bodies at all levels, all sectors of the state, all mass organizations, and all society the task of carrying out even more properly the party and state policies toward soldiers on active duty, toward families of fallen heroes and soldiers, as well as toward wounded and sick soldiers currently undergoing treatment.

In particular, efforts must be made to care for the material and spiritual lives of the combatants who are fighting on the northern border and their families. It is necessary to ensure that soldiers will be provided with grain, foodstuffs, and consumer goods in accordance with the quantitative norms. These supplies must be promptly and carefully transported to their destinations and must be delivered without exceeding the allowable shortage limit and without damage.

In the rear, it is necessary to care for the lives of families of soldiers on active duty, especially those serving in combat areas, with special attention given to families lacking in labor capability.

While implementing the product contract system in crop cultivation and livestock breeding, production collectives and cooperatives must apply favorable policies to create conditions for families of soldiers, war invalids, and fallen heroes to earn a fair income. Attention must be given to providing hard-pressed families with enough grain to eat.

Many enterprises have paid attention to the lives of families of workers who have left for military obligation and have given them subsidies, allowances, and other forms of assistance. Many localities, city wards, hamlets, and villages have successfully launched the all-people movement to care for families of fallen heroes, war invalids, and soldiers along with the campaign to build model citizens and the campaign to build exemplary revolutionary families, and have encouraged war invalids and families of fallen heroes to bring into play their glorious traditions and contribute their part in developing culture and the economy locally.

Many schools and administrative echelons have taken good care of school and vacation activities of children of soldiers, war invalids, and fallen heroes. A number of women's union chapters have now prepared to make woolen blankets and overcoats for the combatants serving on the northern frontline. These are all good deeds.

Working in coordination with the specialized organs of the Army, all sectors and state organs must quickly revise and change no longer suitable systems and policies regarding the food, clothing, housing, movement, and medical service benefits for cadres, soldiers, and their families.

If every echelon, sector, and mass organization and the people throughout our country satisfactorily implement the various Army rear policies of the party and state, this will have the effect of strongly encouraging our People's Armed Forces to always stand combat ready and fight well for national defense and of making our Army increasingly bigger and stronger in all respects, thus contributing to the fulfillment of the two strategic tasks of firmly building and defending the Vietnamese socialist fatherland.

ARMY PAPER ON U.S. MOVES IN NORTHEAST ASIA

BK170717 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Following the China visit of President Reagan in late April, White House and the Pentagon officials take turns to be in Tokyo, Seoul, Islamabad, and Beijing. Secretary of State George Shultz, Defense Secretary Weinberger, Vice President Bush have been on the move, and now American Ambassador to the United Nations Kirkpatrick is touring China and some other Asian nations. All the move is to rally forces in opposition to the Soviet Union and the socialist community. The Army paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN on Wednesday -- 16 May -- has this comment:

Washington's move exposed the dangerous scheme of forming an alliance of warlike forces around the hard-core America, China, and Japanese militarism against peace and development in this region. Weinberger, Bush, Shultz, and Kirkpatrick all made a threat about Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. They made up this story about a loss of equilibrium in the region and Soviet threat to the security in the Pacific to bully the nations in the region into their move. But, ironically, their words belie their intention.

Weinberger bluntly said that Washington hopes to have a close military cooperation between the United States, Japan, China, and South Korea in order to cope with the Soviet Union. Weinberger also said that America still concerns with the anti-Soviet front in Europe and that America must get a big role to play in Asia, particularly in beefing up security relations with China, Japan, and South Korea. Observers have seen the connection between America's nonstop mission to Asia and the strategic deployment of the reactionary forces in Asia and the Pacific. All this was topped with Reagan's China visit.

Everybody knows that America's occupation of South Korea has been agreed upon by Beijing. Similarly, American efforts in promoting Japanese militarism enjoy Beijing sympathy and understanding. Beijing understands that America is trying to build nuclear based in Japan and South Korea. And perhaps Beijing is ready for an invitation to join the U.S.-Japan-South Korea military alliance which is coming into being and reality.

Encouraged by Weinberger's support, the reactionaries in South Korea renew their anti-North campaign, China steps up its acts of war against Vietnam, and Thailand gears up its military actions against the PRK. It is easy to see the connection. Washington and Beijing are orchestrating a new movement in aggravating confrontation and conflicts in Asia. And the coming military alliance of Washington, Tokyo, and Seoul with Beijing's support is posing a serious threat to peace and stability in Asia and the Pacific.

Some politicians in the ASEAN nations have expressed their conviction that the Sino-American alliance has caused a serious threat to this region. Beijing alone is a threat. And this is a historical fact. And now Beijing plus Washington, that must be something to think of seriously.

YOUNG AMERICAN TREASURE HUNTER RELEASED

BK170452 Hong Kong AFP in English 0438 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Hanoi, May 17 (AFP) -- A young American adventurer has been released 11 months after his arrest for illegally entering Vietnamese waters in search of the fabled Captain Kidd's treasure, British sources here said today.

They said that Frederick Graham, who was 19 when detained, had been held in Ho Chi Minh City since June and was to leave for Bangkok later today aboard a regular Air France flight. Mr. Graham, of Belmont, California, was freed after his family paid an extra 1,800 dollars demanded by the Vietnamese Government on top of the 10,000 dollar fine imposed on him in July.

The American was captured along with a Briton, Richard Knight, in June off the Vietnamese island c. Phy Quoc near the Cambodian coast. They had left Thailand in a bid to locate an island near Vietnam where the 17th-century Scottish pirate William Kidd was said to have buried some treasure. The two were first held in a prison in Ho Chi Minh City, formerly called Saigon, and were moved in December to a house in a suburb of the one-time capital of South Vietnam.

The British sources said that Mr. Knight would be released after payment of the 11,800 dollars. So far, his family has been able to raise only 2,000 dollars, the sources said. A British diplomat who met with Mr. Knight in March said that the treasure hunter was in good shape physically but under severe psychological strain from his detention.

Mr. Graham began his escapade after dropping out of college and traveling to Bangkok to seek work as a war reporter. The Briton, 47 when detained, is from Shoreham-by-Sea in Essex and had been looking for a partner to follow up on a hunch about where the treasure lay buried.

COMMENTARY VIEWS 'AGENT ORANGE' CONTROVERSY

BK141358 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 14 May 84

[Station Commentary]

[Text] It is said that people reap what they sow. Twenty-three years ago, the United States started sowing a poison on Vietnam in an operation that lasted a decade, and this month the harvest of that poison has begun to be reaped in an American court. The poison is called Agent Orange, and it was used by the U.S. military to kill the dense jungles that helped the movement of the liberation fighters in South Vietnam.

Agent Orange was basically herbicide, but in Vietnam it was sprayed in concentration up to 13 times stronger than that recommended for agricultural use. Now, about 20,000 veterans of the Vietnam war in the United States, Australia, and New Zealand, their widows and children are suing U.S. chemical companies that make Agent Orange. The veterans also charged that the U.S. Government poisoned its own troops with herbicide.

On 7 May, a hearing opened in a U.S. federal court in Brooklyn, New York. According to a VOA broadcast, the seven companies that produced Agent Orange and supplied them to the U.S. military have agreed to pay \$180 million drawn from a special bank account in compensation for the veterans and their families.

The defoliation program, which was chemical warfare in fact, was conducted between 1961 and 1971. Much of the targeted areas were forests and farmlands. This deliberate farm destruction was supposed to deprive the liberation soldiers of food. Vietnamese peasant families, however, bore the brunt of this chemical spray both in regard to food loss and effect on their health.

According to figures released by the International Symposium on Herbicides and Defoliants in War held in January 1983 in Ho Chi Minh City, between 900,000 and 100,000 [figures as heard] tons of herbicides and defoliants were dropped. Up to 44 percent of South Vietnam's forest lands were destroyed by chemical spray, and thousands of people have been exposed. Many have died.

(Roger Quinn), an American Vietnam war veteran, was right when he told a VNA correspondent that the U.S. Government had spent \$200 billion to wage the Vietnam war, should take a small percentage of this amount to help rebuild Vietnam [sentence as heard]. Another former soldier of the U.S. war in Vietnam, Mr (Mark Ryan), father of (Kathy Ryan) who has spent most of her life having corrective surgery, was among many Americans feeling acute compassion for the Vietnamese victims of chemical war. He said: If my daughter were born in Vietnam, she would have been dead within 48 hours. I don't know if we can do anything about the Vietnamese people who are still suffering out there. But we must try. It's our moral obligation.

THAILAND'S GEN ATHIT VISIT TO PRC REPORTED

BK161204 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] General Athit Kamlang-ek, supreme commander of the Thai Armed Forces, arrived in Beijing on Tuesday. During his 9-day visit to China, Athit Kamlang-ek will visit the Chinese-Vietnamese border area, several military bases, and weapons manufacturing factories in Beijing and other cities. He will hold talks with Chinese top leaders such as Deng Xiaoping and Zhao Ziyang. Public opinion said: By inviting Athit Kamlang-ek to Beijing, Chinese authorities want to draw Thailand into its orbit against the three Indochinese countries.

Visit Proves Collusion

OW170753 Hanoi VNA in English 0704 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 17 -- General Athit Kamlang-ek's current visit to Thailand proves that the Thai ultra-reactionaries are venturing further on the dangerous road of collusion with the Chinese reactionaries in their hostile strategy against the Kampuchean people, and the other Indochinese peoples, says NHAN DAN in a commentary today. Dealing with the China tour of the Thai Armed Forces supreme commander, the paper says that Thailand's promise to follow China in its confrontation with the three Indochinese peoples is unwise and in dissonance with the Thai people's legitimate aspirations and interests.

"This policy," the paper says, "will eventually tie Thailand's policy to China's and serves Beijing's expansionist schemes, which surely is not approved by the Thai people who have a spirit of independence and sovereignty.

"Mr. Kamlang-ek and the ultra-reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles, short-sighted in their calculations, are tailing after the Beijing reactionaries to serve their expansion in the region. That is very dangerous because it drags Thailand into a position of instability with incalculable consequences.

"That policy has been criticized by a number of leading circles in ASEAN countries as well as practical-minded people in Thailand".

"The Beijing-Bangkok talks," the paper continues, "show that they are not taking their setbacks lying down. They are trying to shore up the Pol Pot remnants -- their main instruments -- in opposing the Kampuchean revolution.

"They have not given up the genocidal gang whose elimination has been demanded by the whole world, including many ASEAN countries, so as to advance towards the building of a peaceful, stable and cooperative Southeast Asia".

NHAN DAN BLAMES PRC FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA TENSION

BK160715 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 14 May 84

[NHAN DAN 14 May commentary: "Beijing Lies"]

[Text] The Beijing reactionaries are escalating their crimes in Indochina and creating an extremely tense situation in this region. The world has witnessed continuous shelling and nibbling attacks launched by Beijing against a number of Vietnam's northern border areas. These are very serious acts of war that have been conducted by the Chinese authorities since 1979. Public opinion in the Soviet Union, the socialist community as a whole, and throughout the world has vehemently condemned China's criminal acts against Vietnam. The world has also witnessed Beijing's stubborn continuation of its policy of using Pol Pot and his cohorts as the main instrument to oppose the rebirth of the Kampuchean people.

It must be stressed that the above-mentioned actions were taken at a time when the Chinese authorities were giving a lavish welcome to Reagan — the representative of the archimperialists — and entering deeper in a devilish Sino-U.S. collusion to oppose the Soviet Union, Vietnam, and peace and revolution in Southeast Asia, Asia, and the rest of the world. To put up a defense before the court of public opinion and conceal their bloodstained criminal hands, the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists at first loudly charged that Vietnam had invaded China and Kampuchea; however, this shopworn thief-crying-thief trick of Beijing has lost its appeal and can no longer convince anyone except Beijing's lackeys.

As is universally known, the Soviet Union threatens no country and no nation. The Soviet Union has adopted a clear-cut policy and advanced constructive proposals aimed at defending peace and security not only in Europe, but also in Asia and the rest of the world. Why, then, did Beijing recently concoct the absurb story that the Soviet Union constitutes a source of trouble in Indochina and Southeast Asia? Beijing had to do so because:

First, since the reactionary Sino-U.S. collusion has been increasingly strengthened following Reagan's visit to Beijing, the Beijing reactionaries have been bent on backing the U.S. strategy against the Soviet Union and the socialist community as a whole. In their words as well as in their deeds, both Washington and Beijing have displayed the same attitude of resentment and bitterness toward the Soviet Union and have closely coordinated their actions for anti-Soviet purposes.

Second, China's shelling and nibbling attacks on Vietnamese territory for more than a month now have fanned up worldwide indignation, and every accusing finger is being pointed at the Beijing reactionaries as the culprit responsible for the tension on the Sino-Vietnamese border as well as in the region. To shy away from this legitimate public accusation, China is now trying to shift the blame on the Soviet Union.

Third, more and more people and leading circles in the ASEAN countries have clearly realized that China is a serious threat to peace and stability in Indochina and Southeast Asia. This threat is real and dangerous. The Sino-U.S. collusion spawned from Reagan's trip to China has made the Southeast Asian countries grow more worried about China's expansionist designs. Therefore, the Chinese reactionaries have to produce a Soviet bogey in a bid to mislead public opinion and direct the ASEAN countries' worries to the Soviet Union.

Beijing lied and did a dirty job when it charged the Soviet Union with threatening Southeast Asia. Beijing's policy of colluding with the U.S. imperialists to frenziedly oppose and undermine the revolution in the three Indochinese countries, incite confrontation between Indochina and the ASEAN countries, and eventually dominate the whole of Southeast Asia is the cause of tension in Southeast Asia, making this region one of the hot spots of the world and seriously threatening regional peace, stability, and

An ever-growing number of people in the ASEAN countries have clearly seen the scheme and nature of the Chinese reactionaries. The U.S. newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST commented in its 4 May issue that Reagan's backing for China cannot dispel the thought of virtually all of China's neighboring countries about Chinese expansionist designs. The Indian newspaper HINDUSTAN TIMES said in its 7 May issue: To pursue regional hegemonism, China is seeking to threaten Vietnam. Obviously, China's act of calling others hegemonists is one of the greatest ironies in history. The Chinese reactionaries' true nature has been laid bare. Slanders and deceptions cannot help them cover up their crimes.

CUBA'S MONTANE EXPRESSES SUPPORT, CRITICIZES PRC

OW141834 Hanoi VNA in English 1523 GMT 14 May 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 14 -- The party, government and people of Cuba fully support the Vietnamese people's present socialist construction and national defence, said Jesus Montane, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and head of its General Department for Foreign Relations.

He made this statement when receiving Ta Thi Kieu, a Vietnamese Army heroine in the past anti-U.S. resistance, who visited Cuba at the invitation of President Fidel Castro. Ta Thi Kieu spoke of the present situation in Vietnam especially along the common border with China. Jesus Montane said that U.S. President Reagan's recent China visit had increased the threat to peace and security in Southeast Asia.

During her 12-day visit ending on May 10, Ta Thi Kieu was warmly received by Mrs. Vilma Espin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the C.P.C. [Communist Party of Cuba] C.C. and president of the Federation of Cuban women, and Rene Rodriguez, member of the C.P.V. C.C. and president of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples and of the Cuban Committee for Solidarity with Vietnam. Ta Thi Kieu attended activities in honour of the 9th anniversary of the liberation of southern Vietnam (April 30) and the 30th anniversary of the Dien Bien Phu victory in Havana and other places.

PRC 'AGGRESSION' DENOUNCED AT NEW DELHI MEETING

OW151740 Hanoi VNA in English 1551 GMT 15 May 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 15 -- A mass rally was held in New Delhi Monday evening by the All-India Peace and Solidarity Organization [AIPSO] in support of the Vietnamese people's fight against the armed provocations, intrusions and other acts of aggression perpetrated by the Beijing reactionaries against Vietnam. Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Quang Tao informed the meeting of the tense situation at present in the three Indochinese countries as well as in Southeast Asia caused by the hostile expansionist policy pursued by China in collusion with the U.S. imperialists against Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos. He denounced China for its armed provocations, intrusions and other acts of aggression against Vietnam along the Sino-Vietnamese border.

Prof. Moonis Raja, who chaired the meeting, said that China has failed in nurturing the genocidal Pol Pot gang against the Kampuchean people. He strongly denounced the imperialists and expansionists for their use of aircraft, tanks and artillery "to teach a lesson" to smaller countries. This is not the first time China wants to "teach Vietnam a lesson," he said. She has done it for thousands of years. But China has (?incurred) repeated failures because the heroic Vietnamese people have refused to learn the lessons.

China also wanted to teach India a lesson as it has done to Vietnam, he recalled and added that Vietnam and India have the same experience, that is, the present world situation does not allow any one be it the United States or China to teach others a lesson. This, he said, is because the peoples of other countries are well aware of the necessity to stand up to fight and build a life in independence, freedom, self-reliance, peace and stability. He said that this is the very lesson Vietnam has taught not only to China but to the rest of the world as well. Vietnam has resisted many foreign aggressions and interventions. It is fighting not only to defend itself but also to defend the world, a world in which there is no war but only peace and concord among nations.

Prof. Raja affirmed that dialogue, not confrontation, is the best way to bring peace and stability to Southeast Asia. All acts of provocation and aggression undermine the trend toward dialogue, he said.

Mrs. Perin Romesh Chandra, AIPSO secretary general, reaffirmed the Indian peaceloving and progressive forces' solidarity with and support to the Vietnamese people in their struggle against the Chinese aggressors. She said this support stems from the fact that the Indian people are fully aware that Vietnam is fighting not only for its own independence and sovereignty, but also for other nations and for the maintenance of world peace and security.

VIETNAM TO TAKE PART IN 6TH AAPSO CONGRESS

OW161551 Hanoi VNA in English 1500 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 16 -- "Vietnam is prepared to take part in and make active contributions to the Sixth Congress of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) to be held in Algiers from May 27-30", said Tran Danh Tuyen, president of the Vietnam Committee for Afro-Asian People's Solidarity, while receiving here Tuesday Algerian Ambassador to Vietnam Nacer ad-Din Haffad. The Algerian ambassador expressed high appreciation of Vietnam's active preparations for the A.A.P.S.O. congress. The two sides expressed the hope that the congress would be crowned with success, thus actively contributing to the Afro-Asian peoples' solidarity and to the world people's struggle against U.S.-led imperialism and other reactionary forces, for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

PRK INDUSTRY MINISTRY TEAM ARRIVES, HOLDS TALKS

OW161537 Hanoi VNA in English 1503 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 16 -- A delegation of the Kampuchean Ministry of Industry arrived here yesterday on a friendship visit as guest of the Ministry of Light Industry. It was met at the airport by Nguyen Chi Vu, alternate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and minister of light industry. Talks were held on cooperation in the production of consumer goods such as fabrics, paper, timber, procelain, and glassware as well as in professional training.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS COMMENDATIONS ON BOND DRIVE

BK150855 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] On 11 May, the Council of Ministers sent a message commending a number of provinces, municipalities, and special zones as follows:

At the request of the Central Committee to promote the purchase of government bonds, the chairman of the Council of Ministers warmly commends cadres and the people of the following localities for their outstanding achievements in the first phase of the drive to purchase government bonds for national construction:

By motivating the people of all strata to respond enthusiastically to the drive from the very first days, Hanoi and Haiphong municipalities have recorded a fairly high sale of government bonds. Though starting late, Ho Chi Minh City, by concentrating guidance on the drive since the lunar new year, has topped the entire country in the sale of government bonds.

Despite heavy loses caused by natural calamities, Thuan Hai, Binh Tri Thien, Nghe Tinh, and Thanh Hoa Provinces, by striving to quickly overcome the consequences of natural calamities along with encouraging the people to enthusiastically buy government bonds, have been able to profoundly intensify the drive, thus recording many sales of government bonds of high denomination in both money and paddy.

Although they have to carry out production while engaging directly in fighting and standing ready for combat against the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists, such mountainous provinces as Hoang Lien Son and Lai Chau have still been able to expand the drive to the grassroots level, thus successfully motivating large numbers of people of various nationalities to buy government bonds of high denomination. Despite its small population and low income, Dac Lac Province, by successfully motivating the people of all nationalities to join the drive, has scored a relatively high sale of government bonds.

Thanks to their widespread and seething mass movement for the purchase of government bonds, Quang Ninh, Nghia Binh, and Phu Khanh Provinces have recorded fairly high sales, with many people buying high denomination bonds. By successfully motivating every person and every family to respond to the drive, Vung Tau-Con Dao special zone has topped the entire country in per-capita sale of government bonds.

The achievements recorded by these localities, as well as by many other localities, clearly demonstrate the spirit of patriotism and love for socialism of our people of all strata and nationalities. They also manifest the organizational and directional strength of the party, administrative, and front organs in localities in implementation of the party Central Committee Political Bureau's resolution and Council of State's regulation concerning the issuance of government bonds for national construction.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers hopes that the cadres and people of localities with achievements in the first phase of the drive to purchase government bonds will further develop their achievements aimed at making the drive a seething and widespread patriotic emulation movement in all areas and among all strata of the people, thereby contributing worthily to the cause of industrializing the country.

PHA HUNG VISITS HAIPHONG SECURITY SERVICE

OW111151 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Comrade Pham Hung, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of the interior, and Comrade Doan Duy Thanh, secretary of the Haiphong municipal party committee, recently visited Tien Lang and Cat Hai Districts, and the Public Security Service in Haiphong.

In Tien Lang District, Comrade Pham Hung expressed satisfaction with the efforts and achievements of the Tien Lang party committee and people. From a poor district, after a few years of effort Tien Lang has made progress in the production, cultural, educational, and health fields. Its outstanding achievement was its success in attaining self-sufficiency in food and in making more contributions every year to the state. On this basis, the district party committee has raised the district's target in rice output from 6.5 to 7-7.5 metric tons per hectare.

At the Haiphong Public Security Service, Comrade Pham Hung met the key leaders of the municipality's Public Security Service, and the chiefs of ward Public Security Services, who reported to him on the situation and work of defending political security and social order, as well as the building up of the strength and logistics of the Haiphong Public Security Force. He paid special attention to and stressed the control of household and population registration. He outlined the political, economic, social, and security significance of a good control of household and population registration in the municipality, as well as in the rural areas. Only by having good control of household and population registration and of temporary residences and absences of persons can we successfully perform the political security task, maintain social order, safeguard socialist property, and protect the people's lives and property.

The Haiphong People's Public Security Force must strengthen its internal unity, exert efforts, and surge ahead to fulfill its duty of defending the political security, social order, and safety of Haiphong, where there are many big enterprises, where one of the nation's big ports exists, where there are many islands, and so forth, to make a positive contribution to basically stabilizing the socio-economic situation by 1985, and preparing well for new progress in the subsequent 5-year plan. He wished the municipal party committee, people's committee, cadres of various sectors and echelons, and compatriots of Haiphong many still more splendid achievements.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DIRECTIVE ON FLOOD CONTROL

BK161600 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 14 May 84

[Text] The chairman of the Council of ministers recently issued a directive on the 1984 flood and typhoon control tasks. The directive says:

The weather in our country has, in recent years, developed in a very complex manner. It is therefore impossible to make an accurate weather forecast for 1984. As our country is located in one of the world's most typhoon- and flash flood-prone areas and because, stretching across 15 north latitudes, it has many rivers and streams, every year it experiences numerous typhoons and flash floods in one area or another. It is therefore necessary to prevent adverse situations.

We do not have any additional flash flood control projects. The Hao Binh project, now under construction, does not yet have any effect on reducing the intensity of flash floods for the lower reaches of the Red River. Many portions of river beds are blocked. Many portions of river and sea dikes are seriously eroded. Though further strengthened, the system of river and sea dikes is still weak. Material facilities and funds are limited. On the other hand, Chinese expansionists—hegemonists, in collusion with U.S. imperialism and other reactionary groups, are carrying out their scheme of sabotaging our country in various ways. It is necessary for us to take precautions against the enemy's attempt to take advantage of flash floods and typhoons to sabotage us. Accordingly, the 1984 flash flood and typhoon control tasks must be implemented seriously, urgently, and appropriately with a determination not to let a dike burst at any large rivers while minimizing damage caused by rain, flash floods, waterlogging, typhoons, and tropical depressions.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers urges the heads of various ministries and sectors at the central level and chairmen of the people's committees of various provinces, cities, and special zones to give adequate attention to this work and to give their direct, scrupulous, and intensive guidance to the implementation of the following tasks:

- -- It is necessary to promptly review the 1983 flood, typhoon, and waterlogging control tasks and draw on the characteristics and nature of flash floods and typhoons, including tropical depressions, as well as the strong and weak points of control efforts and, on this basis, formulate a 1984 flood and typhoon control plan for each sector and each locality, and provide close guidance for the implementation of this plan.
- -- Provinces and cities having river dikes must overcome all difficulties, uphold the spirit of self-reliance and self-support, and rationally use state-supplied materials in order to quickly complete the plan for building dikes, erecting flash flood barriers, and repairing sluices. Particularly Ha Bac and Hai Hung Provinces must concentrate on fully completing the dike-strengthening plans for the Cau, Duong, Thai Binh, and Kinh Thay Rivers. In addition, they must examine and evaluate the quality of various river dikes, flash flood barriers, and sluices built under river dikes; formulate dike protection plans suitable for each locality, satisfactorily maintain the stockpiling of materials for flood control purposes, provide good training for various dike protection forces, develop dike prevention tasks in accordance with stipulations when a flash flood occurs, and strictly prohibit the opening or closing at will of sluice gates built under river dikes.

The directive urged various localities, responsible sectors, and the military and public security sectors to cooperate with each other in satisfactorily implementing the task of protecting river dikes, flash flood barriers, sluices, and economic and national defense projects during the flash flood and typhoon season; to make careful preparations for various flash flood-diverting projects; and to formulate plans to protect the people and their property in the areas to where flash floods have been diverted. Simultaneously, they must satisfactorily carry out flash flood drainage work, keep river beds clear from obstacles, work out plans to tightly manage and use reservoirs, and try to rationally regulate the water flow in order to reduce the intensity of flash floods and to conserve water for power generating purposes. As for those key projects now under construction, it is necessary to adopt an appropriate construction method if early flash floods are to be prevented.

The provinces along the Bac Bo, Trung Bo, and Nam Bo coastal areas must formulate plans against typhoons and tropical depressions with emphasis placed on providing protection for fishermen and fishing junks, various drilling rigs and coastal facilities of the oil and natural gas sector, and ships and their passengers. It is necessary to work out plans to protect river dikes and flash flood barriers in the coastal areas and to take precautions against such incidents as tidal waves, high water, unhealthy winds, and the infiltration of salt water. The prevention of flash floods and typhoons must be linked with efforts to ensure uninterrupted traffic for the Thong Njut rail line and National Route No 1.

The provinces in the Mekong River Delta must choose appropriate summer-fall rice varieties for planting and early harvest; strengthen various systems of protective dikes against early flash floods; devise plans and measures to protect the people and their property, ensuring that they can cope with severe flash floods such as the one that occurred in the Mekong River Delta in 1961; and take precautions against great typhoons that may strike at low altitude.

The provinces in the Bac Bo and Central Highland mountainous regions must devise plans to prevent sweeping flash floods in order to protect reservoirs, dams, drainage ditches, bridges, roads, and houses built near streams. They must also pay attention to providing satisfactory protection for various state farms, forestry sites, and other economic and national defense facilities.

The directive emphasized: All echelons and sectors must quickly strengthen their steering committees for the control of floods and typhoons; reinforce the staff organs of the water conservancy, meteorological, hydrological, postal, agricultural, communications and transportation, and marine product sectors, and so forth; arrange for the training for new cadres along with efforts to fully exploit the experience of seasoned cadres, and organize refresher training for command and staff cadres.

All national economic branches, all sectors with general functions, and all youth unions, women's associations, front organizations, trade unions, peasants' associations, and others must actively join with the Central Committee for the Control of Floods and Typhoons in helping the Ministry of Water Conservancy and the people's committees of various localities satisfactorily carry out these tasks.

All information and press organs must constantly and satisfactorily carry out the task of educating cadres and the people, making them fully aware of the significance and importance of the flood and typhoon control tasks. They must also muster the combined strength of all the people, all sectors, and all echelons to participate actively in these tasks.

AREA OF RICE HIT BY DROUGHT IN NORTH EXPANDS

BK160552 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] According to the Ministry of Water Conservancy, due to sunny and dry weather since early May, the area of rice affected by drought has expanded quickly. In the area irrigated by electric pumps in the major northern provinces alone, as many as 174,000 hectares of rice have suffered a shortage of water. In Hai Hung, Ha Nan Ninh, Ha Son Binh, Thanh Hoa, Thai Binh, and Ha Bac provinces and Hanoi municipality, between 15,000 and 31,000 hectares of rice have been affected by drought. This is due mainly to the failure to supply sufficient electric power for the operation of pumps to irrigate rice at the end of the crop season.

According to the Ministry of Water Conservancy, to ensure sufficient water for rice, the electricity sector should supply various pumping stations with a power output of approximately 50,000 kw as the output it now supplies can meet only 50 percent of the required level and is not enough for the number of operational hours of pumps that operate on a daily basis. Experience shows that the weather in May is unusually sunny and warm with little rainfall, resulting in very serious drought -- that in some years has ravaged as many as 300,000 hectares of ricefields -- and seriously affecting the yield and output of 5th month-spring paddy.

This year, due to difficulties resulting from weather conditions, 5th month-spring rice has been planted behind schedule on a large area. However, thanks to the efforts exerted by the collective peasantry, this rice has been sown and transplanted on a relatively large area. The peasants have made great efforts in the recent past to care for, fertilize, and protect riceplants against insects and blight. Intensive cultivation measures have also been adopted to ensure that this rice can produce a yield and output as planned.

The weather is forecast to remain sunny and warm with no possibility of heavy rainfall between now and the end of the month. Therefore, the protection of rice against drought at the end of the crop season must be carried out actively and with adequate attention. Apart from the additional supply of electric power by the state for the operation of pumps, all sectors concerned should try to create favorable conditions and provide materials, gasoline, oil, and work tools for every locality to combat drought.

It is necessary for all cooperatives to guide the peasants in using both manual and mechanized work tools to secure and draw water into the ricefields rationally and fairly so as to avoid disputes that may result in waste of water sources. Rice is now in boot and is growing ears, and with sufficient water for irrigation purposes, we can create favorable conditions for satisfactorily applying intensive cultivation measures to increase the rice yield.

NHAN DAN VIEWS RESULTS OF LABOR MOBILIZATION

BK161135 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 14 May 84

[NHAN DAN 15 May editorial: "Quality of Labor Mobilization for the New Economic Zones"]

[Text] The rate of mobilizing laborers and people during the 1st quarter of this year to support the development of local and national economies was three times the rate of the same period last year. Fairly high levels of labor mobilization have been attained in the Provinces of Kien Giang, Long An, Dong Nai, Binh Tri Thien, and Ha Nam Ninh and in the municipality of Haiphong.

Dac Lac Province, which is primarily receiving laborers from other localities, has striven to redivide its labor and population within the province to meet the manpower demands of state-owned installations and agricultural and forestry collectives. It has linked labor distribution and division with the settlement of farming and nomads.

The guidelines for distributing and mobilizing laborers and people, which are based mainly on the use and division of labor on the spot, are designed to utilize the existing strengths to develop the local economy. They simultaneously emphasize the mobilization of the work force to build and consolidate new economic zones, fill the personnel shortages in state farms, vigorously develop the areas of industrial plant concentration, and strengthen national defense, especially in the provinces of Eastern Nam Bo, the Central Highlands, and along the northern border.

By distributing and mobilizing labor nationwide, we can create jobs for everyone, increase the technical work force for those localities with many resources, build new areas of specialized crops and new population centers, increase products for society, and improve the people's livelihood.

Labor mobilization must be based on the free choice and consciousness of those who want to leave and must ensure the fulfillment of the demands of the work structure, which encompasses many occupations, professions, and sectors suitable for each economic zone so as to develop production, culture, society, education, and public health. The political knowledge and health of workers recruited for state farms must be guaranteed so as to help strengthen the contingents of socialist agricultural workers.

The mobilization of laborers to develop new economic zones does not mean the relocation of a population group from populous localities to thinly populated areas of fallow land.

It is a campaign of great and profound strategic significance which stems from the guidelines and objectives of socioeconomic development and is aimed at uniformly advancing the national economy and developing the livelihood of people in underdeveloped areas.

The campaign to redistribute production forces must be the responsibility of many sectors in those localities both receiving and losing labor. The guideline of cooperation between the state and collectives, the state and people, the state and local authorities, and among various localities must be implemented through using the most effective forms of mobilization. The new economic zones can be developed well only when there are correct guidelines securing step by step the conditions for developing production and linking the collective economy with the family economy, agriculture with forestry and animal raising, and the economy with society.

Along with amending the policies toward those people leaving for new economic zones to make them relevant to the actual situation, we must improve the policies of reclaiming virgin land to build new economic zones. Investment must be made uniformly and often in the socioeconomic, cultural educational, and public health areas.

There must be incentive policies to ensure that the people in new economic zones can enjoy a better life than in their previous residences. At the same time, additional measures must be taken to attract newcomers.

Although some progress has been made, the labor mobilization plan is still far from being fulfilled, with only 31.1 percent of the annual plan achieved thus far. The state-owned installations have thus far filled approximately 29 percent of the personnel shortages. Of this figure, the rubber plantation sector has filled 24.4 percent, and the coffee plantation sector has filled 50 percent of these shortages. The labor assignment plan for collectives has been only 25-percent achieved.

Building on the results of labor mobilization during the 1st quarter, the authorities of all localities and sectors involved must better mobilize laborers in the coming months, bearing in mind quality and effectiveness as final goals so as to create vigorous progress in labor and population redistribution nationwide, to strongly and comprehensively develop agriculture, to create conditions for national industrialization, and to help achieve the two strategic tasks of building and defending the socialist fatherland.

MINISTER VO DONG GIANG VISITS NICARAGUA

For reportage on the visit to Nicaragua by Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Vo Dong Giang to attend the meeting of nonaligned labor ministers, including his meeting with Nicaraguan Commander Bayardo Arce, see the 16 May Latin American DAILY REPORT.

RESISTANCE RADIO ON DONG NAI RESISTANCE CELLS

BK141003 (Clandestine) Vietnam Resistance Radio in Vietnamese 0200 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] The armed resistance group of the front in Dong Nai Province reports that it successfully formed two resistance teenagers' units in the province -- one in Thong Nhat District and the other in Tan Phu District -- on 8 April. [words indistinct]

Two teenagers, (Hai) and (Hung), played a major role in persuading other teenagers to join the resistance, as well as in arranging for propaganda and proselytizing cadres of the armed resistance group of the front in Dong Nai Province to meet and guide teenagers in these two districts prior to the formation of the teenagers' resistance units.

Another illustrious achievement recorded by (Hung) was that 4 months ago he himself spread more than 500 leaflets of the front on all the main streets in Tan Phu District. (Hung) was named outstanding resistance teenager of Dong Nai Province by the provincial resistance management committee.

According to the report of the Dong Nai provincial armed resistance group, morale among members of these two units [words indistinct]. The provincial armed resistance group is now providing them with intensive training to enable them to clearly understand and satisfactorily carry out all their assignments so that they can contribute to the struggle to overthrow the tyrannical Vietnamese communist administration in the days ahead.

BRIEFS

LONG AN COOPERATIVES -- By the end of the 1st quarter of 1984, Long An Province had built 8 cooperatives and 1,176 agricultural production collectives. From early this year to date, 4 cooperatives and 960 production collectives were established throughout the province. Long An has allocated nearly 22,000 hectares of cropland to over 36,000 peasant families who had little or no land. Landholding readjustment has been closely linked with the building of production collectives and production solidarity teams and with the redistribution of labor throughout the province. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 10 May 84 BK]

THUAN HAI RESETTLEMENT -- Since early this year, Thuan Hai Province has received 2,100 families of people from Binh Tri Thien and Thai Binh Provinces. Duc Linh and Tanh Linh Districts, where these people were resettled, have created favorable conditions for them to quickly normalize their lives. The new settlers were scattered among various hamlets, villages, and cooperatives. Using a combination of manual and mechanized implements, in 1983 various districts opened thousands of hectares of new land for cultivation. To date, 41 new economic points have been established throughout the province. [Excerpt] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 10 May 84 BK]

HA NAM NINH LABOR REDISTRIBUTION -- As of late April, Ha Nam Ninh Province had motivated and organized for 1,544 families, including 7,225 people and nearly 4,000 laborers, to go build new economic zones in the southern provinces. These figures show that the province has fulfilled nearly 90 percent of its annual plan and represents an increase of 48.7 percent over the same period last year. [Excerpt] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 11 May 84 BK]

LANG SON CABLE RADIO -- "> to the present, Lang Son Province has put into operation some 344 cable-radio stations, with 4,277 loudspeakers in all border districts. Cao Loc District has set up 144 wired-radio stations with 2,163 loudspeakers. Cable-radio stations in the five border districts and the Lang Son provincial city have been systematically relaying broadcasts from the Voice of Vietnam and the provincial radio broadcasting station. With its cable-radio network, the information and propaganda service of Lang Son Province has actively motivated the local people to participate in production and stand combat-ready. In April, the province's cable-radio stations promptly broadcast news on the Chinese troops' shelling and encroachments in border villages, and provided guidance in combat support activities. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 11 May 84 OW]

ADAM MALIK PROPOSES ASEAN MILITARY EXERCISE

BK161006 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 8 May 84 pp 1, 9

[Excerpt] During the 1-day special meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers in Jakarta on Tuesday [8 May], Indonesia should take the initiative to restore ASEAN's strength. The former vice president and former foreign minister, Adam Malik, told KOMPAS in Jakarta on Monday that lately, whether it is admitted or not, ASEAN member countries do not feel they have close relations. One of the signs of this lack of intimacy is seen from Thailand's anxiety over a possible shift in position by some ASEAN member countries, Indonesia in particular, toward Vietnam.

Adam Malik stressed that while it is true Indonesia has not shifted its stance, the current situation must change. For that reason, at today's meeting, ASEAN foreign ministers must reaffirm their full support to Thailand in coping with the Kampuchean problem and the Vietnamese provocation along the Thai border. This support must be shown not only through issuing statements, but must also be translated into a concrete stance, action, and pressure.

He suggested that the pressure be manifested in the form of a joint ASEAN military exercise to be held on Thai soil in the near future. The exercise should involve at least 10,000 troops from the six ASEAN countries with the costs jointly shared. If necessary, the exercise should be held near the Thai border.

According to Adam Malik, this proposal is a serious one and need not be interpreted in various ways, because on the one hand, it will restore Thailand's confidence in ASEAN in the sense that in coping with an external threat, only ASEAN will guarantee protection first. At the same time, the proposal is aimed at preventing Thailand from abandoning ASEAN and seeking protection from the United States or the PRC. On the other hand, ASEAN's concrete proposal will also serve to show Vietnam that ASEAN remains united.

This senior Indonesian statesman believes that Vietnam should be dealt with more firmly, because past experience has shown that Hanoi will never show any flexibility over its occupation of Kampuchea if it is only pressed by verbal demands. Adam Malik has even noticed Vietnam's growing intransigence with its provocations along the Thai-Kampuchean border. It seems that Vietnam has sensed the somewhat decreasing unity and solidarity among ASEAN member countries and Hanoi wants to test them. "Therefore, there is no other way at the moment to show Hanoi and the world that all ASEAN members are still united in one bloc. Each member should show its complete solidarity with Thailand, because if the confidence of a member of ASEAN is getting shaky, that can cause a rift, and this must be prevented from taking place as early as possible," Adam Malik said. In his capacity as Indonesian foreign minister, he was instrumental in the founding of ASEAN as one of the signatories of the 1967 Bangkok Declaration.

Adam Malik reiterated that holding a joint military exercise does not necessarily mean that ASEAN is heading toward a military alliance. The joint exercise only serves to show that ASEAN is still united and able to flex its muscles if needed. Besides, the proposal to hold the exercise will also prevent or preempt Thailand's demand for the formation of an ASEAN military pact, or its abandoning ASEAN and seeking refuge with the PRC.

Adam Malik is under the strong impression that Thailand is concerned about ASEAN's stance toward Vietnam, and about Indonesia in particular. The recent visits of Thai Deputy Prime Minister Phichai Rattakun and Thai Supreme Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek to Jakarta certainly underscored Bangkok's anxiety.

Asked if an ASEAN military exercise in Thailand might instead be counterproductive, Adam Malik said that it depends. "It depends means that Hanoi might even become more furious and intransigent. That might happen, but ASEAN also ought to step up its pressure and flex its muscles!" In this connection, he reiterated the proposals he made some time ago on the role of the PRC in the Kampuchean problem as well as the necessity for Indonesia to normalize relations with the PRC. "I am still of the opinion that the time for normalization has come. If we are still apprehensive about it, that apprehension is actually self-made. Surely, we are a strong nation, aren't we? Therefore, we must have self-confidence."

According to Adam Malik, if all ASEAN countries maintain normal relations with the PRC, then ASEAN will be able to play the PRC card to press Vietnam for an early solution to the Kampuchean problem. After that, a neutral Kampuchea can be made into a buffer state between Vietnam and ASEAN. He added that present-day Vietnam is different from the Vietnam when Ho Chi Minh was still alive. "If Ho Chi Minh were still alive, Vietnam would not be aggressive like it is now and launch an invasion beyond its territory. This contradicts the idealism of Ho Chi Minh, who only wanted to fully liberate his country."

On paper, Vietnam's military strength is indeed superior to ASEAN's. In this connection, Adam Malik said he could understand Thailand's anxiety, which shares a common border with Vietnamese-occupied Kampuchea. For this reason, a joint ASEAN military exercise is expected to produce a positive impact.

ADVISORY COUNCIL DEPUTY CHAIRMAN MURTOPO DIES

BK160925 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 15 May 84

[Excerpt] Ali Murtopo, a retired lieutenant general and deputy chairman of the Supreme Advisory Council, passed away at 1545 West Indonesian Time this afternoon in Jakarta. The ANTARA news agency, which contacted Radio Republik Indonesia tonight, stated that the funeral is scheduled for tomorrow afternoon with full military honors at the Kalibata Heroes' Cemetery in Jakarta.

BRIEFS

TRANSMIGRATION RESETTLEMENT -- During the 1983-84 fiscal year, the Central Java regional office of the Transmigration and social Affairs Departments succeeded in resettling 300 families of unemployed, homeless, and displaced persons in various transmigration locations outside Java. Before their resettlement, the transmigrants also received vocational training from the two regional offices. [Excerpt] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 20 Apr 84 BK]

REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO ELECTION, VOTE COUNTING

KBL Leads Unofficially

OW161145 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] As official tabulations continued today in town, city, and provincial canvassing boards, the unofficial count today confirmed a KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] lead nationwide over UNIDO [United Nationalist Democratic Organization]. As of 1600 [0800 GMT] unofficial tabulations indicated KBL bets winning or leading in 83 Batasan seats, or 45.36 percent of the total 183 elective seats. The opposition UNIDO bets meantime were leading in 64 seats, or 31.69 percent.

Candidates listed under the NP [Nacionalista Party] banner were ahead in 8 seats while the independents were taking 11 seats. Other candidates are leading in two seats. Some 15 seats are still undetermined being closely fought by KBL and opposition rivals.

Aside from the 183 elective members of the 1984 Batasan, 17 members will be appointed by President Marcos to complete the 200 seats provided by law in the legislative assembly.

Among the undetermined races in the Batasan is that in Nueva Viscaya where KBL Political Affairs Minister Leonardo Perez is trailing incumbent KBL Assemblyman Carlos Padilla who ran as an independent. Canvassing in some 15 towns has reportedly been suspended to ease tension which has built up during the counting.

In Metro Manila, the Makati race is still unresolved even by unofficial count. Yesterday's official canvassing was stopped because of tension developing between followers of contending candidates, the KBL's Roberto Gaite and UNIDO's Aurora Pijuan Manotoc. The Makati board of canvassers resumed the official tally at 1300 [0500 GMT] even as the Manotoc camp formally protested several precinct returns. The office of Mayor Nemiso Yabut meantime released its own unofficial but complete returns which showed Gaite with 108,612 votes winning by 6,000 over Manotoc's 102,178 votes.

The KBL victories were scored mostly in the Ilocos, Cagayan Valley, Pangasinan, Zambales and central Luzon areas except in Pampanga where UNIDO bets (Juanita Lepumeseno), (Emilio Legad), and (Rafael Lazatin) were leading. The fourth slot in Pampanga as of today's unofficial count continued to be a close race between the KBL's (Albert Kanlas), who is public works deputy minister, and UNIDO's (Bren Giyao). Meantime, supporters of (Giyao) were preparing to hold a rally to protest against any tampering of election results in at least six towns.

Official Results in 7-10 Days

OW161319 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] The Commission on Elections [Comelec] will come up with the complete official results of the Batasan elections in 7 to 10 days. We have more from David Nye:

[Begin Nye video report] The question raised by foreign and local newsmen before the poll body this afternoon was when will the Comelec announce the complete and official returns of the elections. Chairman Vicente Sartiago Jr said it might take the commission at least 7 more days because the election returns sent by the boards of canvassers from various districts around the country don't arrive at the same time. He explained that it takes time before the Comelec comes up with official returns because these have to be certified by the canvassers board, and this takes time. He stressed that Namfrel's [National Movement for Free Election] tally is much faster than the official version because Namfrel only bases its results on certified official returns from the precincts.

[Begin recording of Santiago press conference] But the commission has to undertake and follow all the provisions required by the law as well as all the safeguards adopted in order to preserve and guard the sanctity of the ballots. We, however, are trying our best to have the results known to the public as soon as possible because we know -- it's not only you -- we know that when there is delay there are some speculations in the minds of the people. [end recording]

Chairman Santiago said that in Metro Manila only Jaime Ferrer of the United Nationalist Democratic Organization [UNIDO] has been officially declared as the winner over KBL's [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan's] (J. Loyola Golez) in the district comprising Paranaque and Las Pinas. Even if Renaldo Zamora has conceded defeat to UNIDO's Neptali Gonzales in the San Juan-Mandaluyong area, the district's board of canvassers has not proclaimed Gonzales the victor. [end Nye video report]

Marcos Urges Prompt Counting

HK170039 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] President Marcos yesterday [16 May] urged KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] leaders to desist from delaying the proclamation of winners in last Monday's elections. He said that if losing KBL candidates have lodged any protests, the same should not hinder the proclamation of the winning candidates. The chief executive directed the same appeal to the political opposition. The president said that everything must be speed up the electoral process and ease the tension.

The president is calling a Cabinet meeting today at 0900 to discuss economic policies and progress of the government's negotiations with the International Monetary Fund.

The Commission on Elections [Comelec] yesterday ordered all boards of canvassers to immediately proclaim the winning candidates in the Batasan elections to allay anxieties of the electorate in areas where winners remain unknown. In telegrams sent to convassing boards throughout the country, the poll body ordered that winners be proclaimed even if not all election returns have been submitted to the boards, provided the unsubmitted returns will no longer alter election results. Comelec Chairman Vicente Santiago Jr ordered the release of the Comelec order in a press conference at the Comelec Central Office in Manila.

In other developments, the Comelec has suspended canvassing in Nueva Viscaya in the wake of reported irregularities in the preparation of election returns. Political Affairs Minister Leonardo Perez, the official KBL candidate, and the electionist Assemblyman Carlos Padilla of the Socialist Democratic Party are vying for the lone Batasan seat in the province.

The poll body has been requested to place under its control the province of Antique, where nine people were slain Sunday in an armed clash between followers of two political groups.

The Comelec has ordered an enquiry into reports that a Pasay City Mayor (Pablo Poneta) disrupted election proceedings in the (Maricaban) health center, where several voting centers were located. Chairman Santiago said (Poneta) would be asked to answer allegations that he barged into the building and drove out the United Nationalist Democratic Organization's [UNIDO] representatives.

The Comelec is also looking into the complaint of Manila Mayor Ramon Bagatsing that National Citizens Movement for Free Elections representatives and UNIDO inspectors teamed up to block the entry of KBL watchers and inspectors in many voting centers in Manila. The poll body sent investigators to Makati to verify reports that Comelec property in that town was burned and destroyed by followers of an opposition candidate keeping watch over the canvass of election returns.

Chairman Santiago assured both foreign and local journalists attending the press conference that all steps are being taken by the poll body to speed up the process of ascertaining the people's verdict.

FEBC Update on Results

HK170109 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Twelve Cabinet members and a minister of state are assured of election to the first regular Batasang Pambansa. Among those who made it are Prime Minister Cesar Virata, Deputy Prime Minister Jose Rono, Information Minister Gregorio Cendana, Agrarian Reform Minister Conrado Estrella, Labor Minister Blas Ople, and Public Works and Highways Minister Jesus Hopolito. Minister of State Arturo Tolentino also appeared to have won, but Political Affairs Minister Leonardo Perez was still fighting it out in Nueva Viscaya.

The other Cabinet members assured of election are Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, Acting Foreign Minister Manuel Collantes, Tourism Minister Jose Aspiras, Food Minister Jesus Tanchangco, Human Settlements Deputy Minister Jolly Benitez, and Deputy Public Works and Highways Minister Aber Cavlas.

UNIDO [United Nationalist Democratic Organization] candidate Gonzalez emerged as winner over KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] candidate Zamora after the board of canvassers for the San Juan-Mandaluyong district completed its canvass of returns from 612 voting centers in the constituency's 12 barangays. Gonzalez had a total of 101,126 votes, while Zamora obtained only 70,414.

Agricultural Minister Arturo Tanco Jr, a KBL candidate for assemblyman in Batangas Province, yesterday conceded the election to his UNIDO opponents. Almost three-fourths of the Batangas votes have been counted by the provincial board of canvassers. Three UNIDO candidates, former speaker Jose Laurel Jr, Hernando Perez, and Rafael Rector, and one KBL candidate, Acting Foreign Minister Manuel Collantes, made it to the magic circle of four. In a statement released yesterday afternoon [16 May], Arturo Tanco said his people have rendered their verdict, and he accepts their decision.

Also conceding defeat were Deputy Health Minister (Florentino Sulon), and four other candidates. They conceded the election of Koalisyon Panaghisua bets in Cebu City.

San Jan Mayor Joseph Estrada resigned yesterday because of the defeat of Ronaldo Zamora. He has vowed to resign if Zamora lost the election.

Meanwhile in Makati the see-saw contest between UNIDO bet Aurora Pijuan and Roberto Gaite for the lone seat in the Batasan continues. As of yesterday, Gaite remained with a slim lead of 4,805, at 105,907 against Pijuan's 101,102.

The ruling KBL has all but swept all nine seats allotted to autonomous central Mindanao region. Final and partial unofficial results relayed from various sources indicated sure victories for KBL bets in Sultan Kudarat, Lanao del Norte, Iligan City, and Lanao del Sur and Malawi City, where the KBL enjoyed insurmountable leads against their political rivals. In Maguindanao, Cotabato City, and North Cotabato, where four seats are being contested, KBL candidates have also gained the upper hand, though with rather precarious leads over opposition candidates. Central Mindanao, populated by some 2.4 million people, has a total of 1,497,429 registered voters in 4,990 voting centers.

Solicitor General Resigns

HK171136 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Solicitor General Estelito Mendoza today resigned his post as governor of Pampanga. In his letter to President Marcos, Mendoza said he was resigning his post because of the election results in Pampanga. In accordance with parliamentary practice, Mendoza has to resign his posts as solicitor general and as a member of the Cabinet.

UNIDO Reaction

OW170903 Hong Kong AFP in English 1857 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Manila, May 17 (AFP) -- The Philippines' top opposition group today announced it had ordered its leaders across the country to make citizens' arrests of people tampering with results of Monday's general election, and to "meet force with force if necessary." The United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO) repeated earlier charges that the ruling New Society Movement (KBL) was engaging in electoral fraud. This explained the late surge in votes for President Ferdinand Marcos' KBL party, UNIDO said.

UNIDO President Salvador Laurel told a press conference that the plan to carry out arrests of election law violators was "fraught with danger," but added: "we have no choice." UNIDO also said it was forming a "shadow government" to monitor the operations of government ministries, agencies and corporations. Mr Laurel said UNIDO men were ordered not to arrest armed soldiers, policemen or "goons," who he added should be photographed instead. UNIDO members were also directed to document cases of cheating, said Mr Laurel, who charged that authentic returns were being replaced in areas where UNIDO and other opposition groups were ahead of their KBL rivals.

He criticized the delay in the official ballot count by the official watchdog Commission on Elections (Comelec). "We have to save a lot of our candidates who have won and whom they are now trying to cheat," Mr Laurel said.

In an interview with U.S. television Tuesday, President Marcos said the KBL had won about 138-140 seats and the opposition 40 to 50 seats. He gave no basis for his claim, but it appeared to be based on preliminary Comelec tabulations. According to the latest unofficial returns with 58.1 percent of the national tally in, the KBL is in the lead in 89 races, UNIDO is ahead in 63, and other opposition parties, independents and others in 31. The KBL needs to win at least 84 seats to have a majority in the new 200-member assembly as 17 seats are to be nominated by the president.

Meanwhile UNIDO campaign manager, ex-Senator Ernesto Maceda, disclosed a plan to form a shadow government that would monitor the operation of government ministries, agencies and corporations.

He said each member of the shadow government would be assigned a staff to carry out its work.

Mr Maceda said opposition members of the new assembly would be empowered to formally probe government operations and to demand relevant documents.

UNIDO candidates leading in races in Metropolitan Manila appeared at the press conference today and were "proclaimed" winners by Mr Laurel. With 80 percent of returns in, the UNIDO candidates are well ahead in 16 races and the KBL in five, Mr Laurel said, citing returns released by the independent poll-watching body, the National Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel). Mr Laurel also said the boycott movement had "fizzled out" and attracted less than one percent of voters, citing Namfrel figures. The call for a boycott of Monday's poll was made by the hardline faction of the opposition, including ex-Senators Jose Diokno and Lorenzo Tanada, as well as by Butz Aquino, younger brother of assassinated opposition chief Benigno Aquino.

AFP: UNIDO Open to Coalition

OW171321 Hong Kong AFP in English 1248 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Manila, May 17 (AFP) -- The top Philippine opposition party may discuss the formation of a coalition government with President Ferdinand Marcos if he promises not to seek another term, the party's chief [words indistinct] Former Senator Ernesto Maceda said the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO) was "open to any idea that will bring us back to full democracy and solve our economic problems."

The presidential election is set for 1987. Mr Marcos, 66, who has been president since 1965, has said he may run again if he is needed, or if there is none else qualified, when his current six-year term starting 1981 ends.

Mr Maceda disclosed the possibility of a coalition to reporters at the first UNIDO news conference since an unofficial count surprisingly showed his party leading the race for over 60 of 183 elective National Assembly seats.

The latest trend analysis by a citizens' poll watchdog group indicated the KBL was leading in the contest for 89 seats, but leading independents and members of other opposition parties brought the [words indistinct] to 94. However, the KBL needs to win only 84 seats to retain its majority because President Marcos is empowered to appoint 17 Assembly members. The current Assembly voted in 1978 [words indistinct]

Mr Maceda said that "if Marcos calls for reconciliation, it [words indistinct] that slain opposition leader Benigno Aquino had proposed the formation of a coalition in 1981, but it was rejected by President Marcos. Mr Maceda was a close associate of Mr Aquino in the United States, where the late politician lived in exile for three years before he was shot dead at Manila airport on his homecoming last August 21.

Ramos on Death Toll

HK161225 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1100 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] PC [Philippine Constabulary] Chief Fidel Ramos today said a total of 94 persons were killed as of last Monday's Batasan elections. The latest report of election-related deaths came from Cagayan Province. More of this from Jun Francisco:

[Begin Francisco recording] Ramos said there was an increase of three persons killed in an encounter between elements of the [words indistinct] brigade of the Army and the New People's Army in Gataran, Cagayan. Two NPC's, he said, were killed, and on the government side, one Army soldier. Ramos said there were a few reported incidents since 8 o'clock this morning.

In a press briefing given to the Defense Press Corps, Ramos at the same time pointed out that at this post-election period, the most important role that the PC-INP [Integrated National Police] and the entire Armed Forces will be doing will be the protection of ballot boxes deposited in municipal halls, provincial capitals, or in other buildings authorized by the Comelec [Commission on Elections] for the safekeeping of ballots. Ramos added that he has ordered all PC-INP units to be firm in the implementation of the election code, but he said the enforcers implementing such laws should be diplomatic and should, if possible, avoid physical violence.

Ramos, in the same press briefing, disclosed that there were three bomb threats received during the past 24 hours in the Metro Manila area. But, he said, a check made by the PC-INP proved negative. General Ramos added that there are six identified potential trouble spots that the PC-INP is watching. These are the Provinces of Ifugao, where the election was hotly contested between the Paredes and Lumauig camps, Antique, Davao Oriental, Davao del Sur, Misamis Occidental, and Zamboanga del Sur. [end recording]

Election 'Triumph' for Democracy

HK161432 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 May 84 p 6

[Article by Jesus Bigornia: "Batasan Polls, a Triumph for Democracy"]

[Excerpt] Democracy, given up for dead by the doctors of the Western press, is alive and doing will in the Philippines. Results of the recently conducted election for the Batasang Pambansa in Metro Manila (National Capital Region) and most of the urbanized areas of the country giving the opposition a startlingly big margin of victory supports such a rosy prognosis. Even in the hinterlands, symptoms of a miraculous recovery are beginning to emerge as partial returns from the provinces begin to trickle into votetabulating headquarters. Beaten in the cities, the administration's party, the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL), retained its grip in most of the provincial constituencies.

If trends continue to hold, the KBL, despite its loss in key constituencies will still dominate the Batasan, the national assembly, with a comfortable two-third majority vote. Except in a few areas, the Batasan elections held last Monday may be considered a credible expression of the national will. When voters can and did vote against the candidates of the regime, no better evidence of democracy's revival in the Philippines can be produced.

Besides exploding many a popular myth, last Monday's polling laid to rest many accepted beliefs such as (1) the Filipino voter can be bought; (2) the institutionalized barangay system of community government is a potent political instrument of an incumbent administration (3) the Filipino dares not vote against the choices of current leaders. The voter took the money KBL candidates pressed on him and voted according to his conscience. The barangay leaders campaigned long and hard for the KBL tickets and constituents listened attentively but voted the other way nevertheless. Leaders were for once ineffective in influencing the vote.

There is this myth that Philippine political circles have swallowed hook, line and sinker as gospel truth. And this is the claim that where the Iglesia Ni Cristo vote goes, so goes poll victory. Whichever candidate for public office the head of the Iglesia Ni Cristo, Bishop Erano Nanalo, anoints with his endorsement, so the myth says, lo and behold is transfigured from loser to winner. Over the years, and through several national and local elections, the shibboleth has gathered an aura of truth around itself.

Political pundits are quick to recall how in 1969 the then reelectionist President Marcos was training in pre-election surveys his challenger, the late Senator Sergio Osmena Jr. A wave of reaction against the Marcos administration had pushed "Serging," despite a reputation for ruthlessness as a businessman abreast with incumbent. [sentence as published] Iglesia Ni Cristo support for the senator had all but clinched victory. A month or so before election, the Iglesia Ni Cristo switched sides. The result is now part of history.

A battalion of lesser public elective officials swear on the Bible they owe their election to present or past positions to the "solid" support of the Iglesia. So do regiments of appointive officials. But the results of the Monday political exercise appears to have exploded the myth. The Iglesia-supported candidates of the KBL are getting a severe clobbering in Metro Manila. The clean sweep that administration party strategists had predicted had collapsed. And so, it has come to pass that the fable of Iglesia potency is relegated to its proper place. For the first time, the image of Bishop Erano Manalo as a power broker has been marred.

Unido Urged To Fulfill Promises

HK161437 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 May 84 p 6

[Article by Orland F. Aquino: "Onus on Opposition"]

[Excerpt] The opposition's strong showing in the regular Batasang Pambansa elections has placed upon its winning candidates, particularly those belonging to the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO), the responsibility of living up to its promise of effectively fiscalizing the present administration. More so in Metro Manila where the UNIDO, as of latest unofficial reports of the poll results, has pulled a big political upset by winning a majority of the 21 Batasan seats at stake in last Monday's elections.

If the trend in the poll results continues, the opposition would be able to garner much more Batasan seats than those occupied by the Pusyon Bisaya and a few Nationalistas in the interim legislative body. And being more in number, they would be more effective in their fiscalization work and carry more weight in proposing legislative measures designed to help solve the nation's problems.

For the ruling KBL, the polls should serve as an indication of the people's dissatisfaction with the present state of affairs. They complain about high prices, growing unemployment, bad business, rising criminality, graft and corruption and other forms of government excesses. The government is thus called upon to do what it can to ease the people's plight and take steps to accelerate economic recovery. And to bring this about, it must set the example for the people to follow. The people have had enough of rhetoric, they want effective action.

JOURNAL On Opposition Showing

HK161506 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 16 May 84 p 4

[Editorial: "A New Dawn Breaks for the Opposition"]

[Text] The people have spoken. Judging from early and partial returns from election precincts throughout the country, the inclusion of more opposition men in the regular National Assembly which will convene in June could mean one thing — the people's demand for greater and more effective fiscalization of the administration particularly in the executive and legislative branches of the government. Traditional opposition bailiwicks like Metro Manila and several provinces in Central and Southern Luzon, the Bicol region, sections of the Visayas and many parts of Mindanao spoke most vigorously by sending not only known fiscalizers but also critics, the best being former House Speaker Jose B. Laurel Jr.

But there is more than fiscalizing and criticism that the May 14 elections have made obvious. Should the trend of votes continue in favor of the formation of a large opposition group in the National Assembly, many incumbent city mayors would see the handwriting on the wall. This would be particularly true in the case of cities like Manila, Quezon, Caloocan and the municipalities of San Juan, Mandaluyong, Las Pinas and Paranaque where opposition candidates have either won or are leading. With local elections barely two years away, many opposition winners of assembly seats may see in their choice by the people a major step toward the mayoral chair two years from now. Local elections are scheduled for 1986.

The elections also proved one thing. Manila and the other Metro Manila areas, with the exception of Pasay City and possibly the municipalities of Makati, Malabon, Navotas, Valenzuela, and Pateros, Taguig and Muntinlupa, have reverted to their former oppositionist stance. Depending on how the minority handles itself in the National Assembly between next June and 1986, the national capital region may see opposition mayors and city or municipal councilors.

And, if as some political circles claim, the monolithic Iglesia ni Cristo [INC] supported only one opposition candidate in Manila and threw its weight behind the ruling KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] candidates, its organized votes failed to dent the tidal wave of the silent majority. What many in the opposition will conclude is that they no longer need to kowtow to INC for votes in future elections.

Over and above all these things, however, is the clear fact that the 1984 polls were clean, honest and orderly and that for the first time in years, the people made their mandate known and have now taken a front seat to see what their representatives will do in the next years. Congratulations are in order all around, not only to the opposition and KBL winners but also to the administration for having made clean elections possible. That much the people know and appreciate.

TIMES on Desire for Change

HK161557 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 16 May 84 p 4

[Article by Mat V. Defensor: "The Meaning Is Change"]

[Text] The people have spoken -- clearly. If trends do not change -- in fact they seem to be firming up -- there is only one meaning that can be read from the results of the elections: The people want change.

The message is clear from the results shaping up in various electoral districts in Metro Manila and in the provinces. Particularly in Metro Manila, the message is sharpest with the looming opposition victory so spectacular that it could well be beyond the wildest expectations of the oppositionist themselves. Of the four cities and 13 municipalities in Metro Manila, the outcome is in doubt only in Pasay City, Makati, and the Pateros-Taguig-Muntinglupa area where the KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] enjoys a very slight — and hotly contested — advantage.

The opposition has scored victories also in Rizal, Batangas, Quezon, Palawan, Pampanga, Bulacan, Tarlac, Cebu City, Cagayan de Oro City, Antique, and Iloilo on the basis of partial unofficial returns. Indeed, the clamor for change is everywhere. With the elections over, it is time to pay attention to the urgent national concerns which have been neglected during the past three months of frenetic political activities. The harsh realities must now be faced.

First on the agenda is national reconciliation. It is evident that the country will never move forward as long as it suffers from deep divisions within. Our problems are so grave that no less than total concentration of resources (which include the talents and energies of all, KBL and opposition, the private sector and the religious groups alike) is necessary to free our people from the fetters of stagnation and decay.

The process of national reconciliation, begun last year and interrupted in its course by hate and bitterness, must resume. The statesmanship and patriotism of our present leaders will be put to test on this issue. If they can rise above petty partisanship and personal interests, the process of reconciliation may be continued. It can lead our people to peace and freedom and justice and -- possibly -- prosperity.

Next in the agenda but equally top priority is the problem of the economy. The threat of another peso devaluation is causing much worry and agony. The people must be relieved of tensions arising from this threat. Also, the matter of continuing inflation must be attended to. Rising prices must be checked to ameliorate the plight of the low wage earners and the unemployed. The problem of unemployment, which has worsened recently, demands immediate action. Production must increase to ease the pressure on supply. The country's balance of payment must be restored to normal levels.

Also a matter of urgent national concern is a thorough review of present economic policies and a redirection of national objectives and priorities. It is obvious that existing economic policies and programs need some retooling. We cannot continue treading on the present road. We must stop and perhaps retrace our steps and proceed again but only after we shall have fixed our directions. We cannot always point to the world economic situation as the culprit for all our economic woes. It will not serve the national purpose to find somebody to blame; we must find the cure.

Another thing that is obviously necessary is the revamp of the Cabinet. Those in the present Cabinet have stayed in their jobs much longer than necessary. They seem to have lost enthusiasm and energy. Having fossilized in their posts, they seem to be incapable of new ideas -- which is even worse.

Besides, the people have strongly indicated, on the basis of the results of the elections, their dissatisfaction over the performance of some members of the Cabinet. Indeed, except for a few who have done honor to their ministry, majority of the president's Cabinet men have nothing to show the people after years of mediocre tenure.

Sensitive as he is to the pulse of the people, the president will no doubt react positively to the will of the people as expressed in the recent polls. The coming days should witness exciting changes, changes which, it is hoped, will bring about improvement in the lives of our people and peace to the nation.

MARCOS AFFIRMS RELATIONS WITH UNITED STATES

HK170107 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] President Marcos yesterday [16 May] affirmed that the Philippines will continue to ally itself with the United States. He said that if there is one country that can help avoid a third world war, it is the United States.

The president made these remarks before members of the American defenders of Bataan and Corregidor, who called on him in Malacanang. The American war veterans, headed by Edward Fisher, presented the president with a letter of appreciation and a plaque of recognition for his exploits during the war.

AQUINO PROBE BOARD RESUMES AFTER ELECTIONS

HK161456 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 May 84 p 32

[Text] Chairman Corazon Juliano Agrava said yesterday that "despite the frustrations, the board will continue without let us its investigation of the assassination of former Senator Benigno S. Aquino, Jr." Agrava described the work so far done by the board as "90 per cent frustration," but, he said, "while we have been misled and have been frustrated by many of the witnesses, we are still trying to arrive at the truth." Investigation being conducted by the board suspended for almost two weeks in deference to the Batasan elections held two days ago.

Public hearings resumed yesterday afternoon with Dr. Bartolome Lapuz, a consultant of the Technology Resource Center (TRC), as the witness. It was the third appearance before the board by Lapuz who has been implicated as the contact man between the military and Jose Fronda Santos, reportedly a member of the alleged government liquidation squad and who had claimed that he had been instructed to assissinate Aquino. Santos fled to the United States several days after Aquino was shot dead at the airport last Aug. 21. He sought political asylum in California but is not reportedly detained for failure to post a bond.

In his affidavit, presented to the U.S. congressional subcommittee and copies of which were circulated in the Philippines, Santos claimed it was Lapuz who introduced him to the now Brig. Gen. Luther Custodio of the presidential Security Command. Custodio has been relieved as head of the Aviation Security Command (Avsecom) immediately after the Aquino assassination. Santos alleged that it was Custodio who allegedly commissioned him to assassinate Aquino abroad. The allegations were, however, denied by Custodio as "brazen lies."

BUSINESS DAY ON THREAT POSED BY BORROWINGS

HK160207 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 14 May 84 p 6

[Report: "Government Borrowings Threaten Central Bank Goal"]

[Text] Massive government borrowings from the Central Bank [CB] last month threaten to expand the money supply and derail the CB's policy of controlling the money supply in order to correct the country's balance-of-payments position and to contain inflationary pressures.

The government in April alone borrowed from the CB P [peso] 4.9 billion, expanding the CB's outstanding credits to the national government from Pl3.5 billion as of end-March to Pl8.4 billion as of end-April. A portion of the amount would be siphoned back by the CB; the government will buy dollars from the CB to pay for its foreign debts. However, the P4.9-billion borrowings from the CB would offset the P2.3-billion cut in money supply the CB made from end-1983 to the end of the first quarter this year.

CB data made available to BUSINESS DAY indicates that the peso equivalent of government's foreign-debt amortization accounts for only a minor portion of the P4.9 billion the government got from the CB last month. The data show amortization of government bilateral and multilateral credits from February to April amount to only \$53 million, or only P742 million at the official exchange rate.

CB data also indicate the monetary authorities had succeeded in containing credits to the national government during the first three months of the year. From about P13.8 billion at the beginning of the year, government credits had dipped to P13.51 billion as of end-March.

Leaped: The government's borrowings shot up during the first week of April and continued to rise during the month. CB Governor Jose B. Fernandez Jr. was then abroad for talks with the International Monetary Fund and for the Asian Development Bank annual meeting. The rise in government borrowings endangers the CB's targets on money supply (M1) levels. Since March, or before the government borrowed P4.7 billion, the CB's hold on the money supply had already weakened. The CB exceeded its liquidity targets.

The CB goal has been to gradually reduce the annual growth rate of Ml -- pesos in circulation and in checking accounts -- from the postwar record high of 38.2 percent registered end-December 1983. The CB achieved that goal during the first two months of this year.

In January, the money supply level was cut by Pl.8 billion resulting in an Ml annual growth rate of 38.0 percent. The contraction continued in February when the CB decreased Ml by another Pl.7 billion, resulting in an Ml annual growth rate of 31.8 percent or about six percentage points lower than the end-December rate.

Expanded: The latest CB figures indicate that for end-March, the CB lost its grip on the money supply, which expanded by P1.2 billion from end-February's P29.0 billion to P30.2 billion. Broad money -- M1 plus savings and time deposits -- also expanded by P3.9 billion or by an annual rate of 26.3 percent. Total liquidity -- broad money plus deposit substitutes -- also grew P3.7 billion, or at an annual rate of 20.1 percent.

If all the P4.9-billion government borrowing becomes part of the M1 level and if the CB is unable to siphon it back, the M1 level would rise to P35.1 billion from the end-March's P30.2 billion. From the year-ago level, the expansion in money supply would be 56 percent.

If the CB fails to check M1 growth, it would build up pressure on the inflation rate which has reached a postwar record of 36.6 percent in February. Economists estimate that in the Philippines, the impact of money supply on inflation has a three-months' lag time, so that the big leap of the money supply last December is foreseen to push up inflation by April. However, a bank economist noted, the danger is that if the peso is devalued in the next few months, the inflationary pressures created in money supply expansion would be compounded. By the time these pressures subside, however, another expansion in money supply in the next few months would further accelerate the inflation rate.

AUSTERITY PROGRAM DETAILS TO BE 'THRASHED OUT'

HK160209 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 15 May 84 p 3

[Report: "Government, IMF Still Working Out Details of Austerity Plan"]

[Text] Details of the austerity program that government is working out with the International Monetary Fund have yet to be thrashed out, and according to Central Bank [CB] officials involved in the talks, discussions may take some time.

Government and the IMF have earlier reached agreement on the broad features of the program, including its period of coverage. Prime Minister Cesar Virata told BUSINESS DAY that the program will be in effect from June this year to December next year, a span of 18 months during which the country will have to honor its commitments to the IMF. At the moment, these commitments are in the form of general targets in government budget and the country's international payments.

But to achieve these targets, the CB has to limit the growth of funds available in the system. The CB officials said the targets for the overall liquidity and the net domestic assets still have to be set. "There is no agreement on figures yet," one said.

Moreover, IMF-government talks on these monetary targets will depend on the result of the preliminary programs. It was agreed earlier that the IMF would monitor the growth of liquidity and NDA levels, before the targets are determined. Among the country's informal commitments to the IMF was for the CB to keep the NDA growth during February-April this year within 2 percent. Since this limit was exceeded, the IMF wants the CB to reduce funds circulating in the system.

GOV'T SHARE: Part of the program on liquidity control is the reigning in of government's share in the allowable growth of credit, termed a "must'" in previous IMF-government programs. "We are still arranging this with the IMF," a CB official said.

Such a share depends on government's budgetary deficit. With this year's budget deficit projected at around P [peso] 6.5 billion, the CB estimates that government's share in credit expansion would be less than the projected deficit since it can obtain loans from abroad. Determining next year's share remains a problem, since the 1985 budget is still being formulated while the program with the IMF already covers the entire 1985.

Virata nevertheless said a top priority of the new Batasang Pambansa, which will convene after the elections, will be to act on the proposed 1985 budget of government. He added that government's 1985 budget deficit should be limited to 1 percent of the gross national product. Another problem that besets the formulation of monetary targets is the continuous growth of liquidity. CB officials said their daily monitoring of the liquidity level indicates a downward trend but the drop is still too small. Conspiring against efforts to bring down liquidity are the overdrawn accounts of some banks with the CB. One bank, for instance, is said to have incurred about P1.3 billion in overdrafts with the CB.

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